

WILLIAM FRANCIS QUINN

THE WATUMULL FOUNDATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

WILLIAM FRANCIS QUINN

(1919 -)

Bill Quinn, the last appointed governor of the Territory of Hawaii and the first elected governor of the State of Hawaii, describes his family background, his early education on the mainland, and the circumstances that led him from Harvard Law School to Honolulu.

He recalls brief visits to Hawaii during World War II while on naval duty in the South Pacific. Following his graduation from Harvard Law School in 1947, he returned to join the firm of Robertson, Castle and Anthony.

Former Governor Quinn recounts the first ten years of his law practice here and the start of his political career. He relates the story of his appointment by President Eisenhower, of his election in 1959, and discusses the myriad of problems he encountered with natural disasters, political opponents and admission to statehood.

He reminisces about old friends, acquaintances, antagonists, and, finally, shares his opinion about the future of the fiftieth state.

© 1987 The Watumull Foundation, Oral History Project
2051 Young Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

All rights reserved. This transcript, or any part thereof, may not be reproduced in any form without the permission of the Watumull Foundation.

INTERVIEW WITH FORMER GOVERNOR WILLIAM FRANCIS QUINN

At his office in the Bancorp Tower, Honolulu, Hawaii

June 19, 1986

Q: William Quinn

S: Alice Sinesky, Interviewer

S: As I said, we want you to start with where you were born, a little bit about your family, your grandparents, any genealogy you'd like to get in there and just lead up to life in Hawaii.

Q: I was born in Rochester, New York, in 1919. My father was in the shoe and leather business and he had moved to Rochester from Wilmington, Delaware. As the shoe and leather business moved west, he moved with it. I lived in Rochester only for a couple of years. My father had gone to work at about ten or eleven years old and had been the oldest of several children, whom he helped support.

S: Was he born in the United States?

Q: He was born in the United States and I can't tell for certain about his father who died when Dad was very young. And I can't tell about the Quinns of Ireland--when they came and where they are--because there are so many of them. His sister, who died just in 1984, was unable to give us any real information. We went over to Ireland a few years ago and thought we might be able to get something, but we couldn't.

Mother had been orphaned and I don't know anything about her family.

S: What was her maiden name?

Q: Her maiden name was Dorrity. And her mother's name was McVeigh. That was E-I-G-H so they had an unusual spelling on that one, but whether it was at Ellis Island or not, the Dorrity was spelled as it's pronounced D-O-R-R-I-T-Y.

S: Oh, that's unusual.

Q: Yes, instead of the usual D-O-U-G-H. I don't know why or how that came about. She also had several siblings. So we lived in Rochester until I was just about two years old

and then moved to St. Louis, Missouri, because that became a major shoe and leather center and Dad, representing Amalgamated Leather Company, moved there. So that's where I got most of my education.

One thing I can say about leaving Rochester at the age of two--I think it's my first recollection as a person--was a nursemaid cautioning that we must be sure to be careful with regard to possible Indian attacks out there in the West. (laughter) I remember that to this day.

We moved to St. Louis. Gosh, you start thinking about these things. My next recollection is the first picture of me in St. Louis showing what a generous person I was and am. I was in a terrible pout because I had come back from kindergarten and I had a nice little hat that I had made, but in the picture somebody said, "Well, let your little sister wear the hat," and I was furious. (laughter) I can see that picture.

So we grew up in St. Louis and moved to two or three places. It seems to me at one point--about third or fourth grade--I skipped a grade so I was always a little young in my classes. I graduated from grammar school when I was twelve, and it seems to me that somebody had given some sort of tests and I scored pretty well on the tests, so the Board of Education asked me to come down and take some additional tests, which I did. I went to a public high school.

S: This was a public grade school, too?

Q: It was a public grade school and I went to a public high school and in my very first year--well, let's see (laughs)--I'll give you everything--I'm stream of consciousness. I graduated from grade school and I was still in knickers. I had never worn long pants, so I went to my first general meeting at the high school and I'm still in my knickers. And I went strolling up and got a big guffaw from everybody there. (laughter) I'll never forget that.

S: You were probably the only one in knickers.

Q: Yes. I quickly got into long pants after that. But it was that very year that I met the lady who's now my wife. We met in my first year in high school. I remember being outside with somebody that I was acquainted with and this freckle-faced little gal walked by with a plaid skirt and saddle shoes. This guy said, "There's a gal you ought to know." He was a neighbor of hers. "That's Nancy Witbeck." A pretty little nose--lots of freckles. So I got to know her eventually and we dated off and on over many years and finally got married.

S: She was in the same high school.

Q: She was in the same high school. Well, we started in one high school, but they had two and they were putting them together, so we all moved over to this other one. I remember when I was about fourteen, in my second year, being called in by the principal and being taken to task because my grades were not what they should have been, based upon what they thought were my capabilities. In those days I used to take off at the first opportunity and go down to Meesler's Drugstore and sit there and have a coke and talk to the girls. (laughter)

S: What about brothers and sisters?

Q: Yes, I had my sister who was three years younger--a beloved person. She is still alive and in San Antonio, widowed with five children, and is a librarian. A law librarian. And I had an older brother, three years older, and he went to the same school, but was two years ahead of me. He was quite active there, quite prominent, president of his class. He went to Washington University in St. Louis.

One thing that had a great influence on our lives, I guess, is that he and I both went to summer camp for eight weeks every summer. The first year I went there I was six years old. Turned seven at camp. And I went there for ten straight years. He went for about twelve because he became head counsellor at the camp. (laughs) It was a great place up in northern Wisconsin on Catfish Lake. It was a beautiful spot. But it was quite difficult to go at that age and be away for eight weeks.

S: Well, obviously then, your parents survived the Depression period pretty well. We're talking the thirties.

Q: Yes, we are. The first year I went to that camp was 1926. So along came the Depression. In 1926 I got up there and there were something like 150 or 180 boys at the camp. In 1930 there may have been forty. Dad had--he was always a salaried man--a great disappointment in his life because he was the fair-haired boy at this company starting when he was about twenty-one years old and kept going.

The company was owned by a very prominent--socially prominent and nationally prominent--person who took a great liking to him and Dad used to have access to his box at the Metropolitan and access to his carriage and horses. He used to get dressed up in his white tie and then go down on lower Third Avenue and show off to the folks where he'd grown up. He was quite a ladies' man. He stayed single until his mid-thirties.

But somewhere along the line--in his early thirties, I guess--the company was sold to a family that had five brothers and they just sat up there at the top of the company and that's where he was and that's where he stayed.

At one point--and this was an irony--a group of people came to him and they wanted to set up another leather company, a competing leather company, and wanted him to come with them as marketing manager. Well, at that point he had a couple of children and he thought carefully about it and decided not to do it because of the security. The fellow that did become marketing manager--well, in the first place, it became a very successful company, this competing company, and the fellow who became marketing manager--it ended up that he was governor of Delaware. (laughs) So this was a great burden on my father and it showed and he became sort of bitter and difficult.

Another thing, while we're talking about the family, music was a great part of the family's life. Dad used to tell the story as a young man, even in his late teens, he used to entertain out at Coney Island and Jones' Beach occasionally. Sometimes he'd get in a festive mood and he'd get out a cane. When he moved to St. Louis, he wore canes. He had a whole stack of canes. He was the only man walking the streets of St. Louis there for a long time with a cane as a mode of dress. He was a very dapper man. And he'd get up occasionally and, "While walking through the park one day..." He'd do his little song and dance. Mother had a lovely voice, a very nice soprano voice.

S: So you came by this honestly.

Q: My brother studied piano, I studied violin, my sister studied piano. She's a very accomplished pianist. I gave up the violin when I started to sing a little bit and I did take voice lessons. I took them for a few years and starting at about eleven or twelve I was acting and singing all my life, so that when I graduated from college, I was very serious about seeking a theatrical career. But I'm a little bit ahead of myself, I guess.

S: But with the security of this job, your dad did go through the Depression.

Q: He went through the Depression. He was a smart investor. He never bought on margin. He'd buy maybe on margin, but quickly sell and secure his ownership so that when the market took that terrible plunge, he was not caught where he had to pay a lot of money like so many people were. He owned what he had. And he had a secure job.

S: So he could just ride it out.

Q: He rode it out. We never really suffered a great deal from that. And I have to take my hat off to him because he knew the market. He had lists of his stocks. He checked them every day, but he never took those gambles to make a million.

S: And we're talking about a man without too much formal education.

Q: That is absolutely right. Seventh grade. So he handled that. We're all grateful to him for the way he was able to do that because he was in just the spot where so many of his friends jumped out of the windows. If you were playing the market as much as he did or buying, investing in the market as much as he did and it was so simple to get ten percent--you know, ninety percent margin. And instead of getting 1,000 shares you got 9,000 shares and, of course, the market was always going up so you always paid it back, you know. All of a sudden it collapsed, and he could have been totally wiped out, but he wasn't. And for that we are eternally grateful to dear old Dad.

As I told you, I was chided for not doing what they thought I should in school and it didn't get better; it got worse. As I became fifteen I became more and more interested in the social affairs that were going on and this was a co-educational school and if it wasn't Nancy, it was one of Nancy's friends or somebody else. I got involved with a group of people that lived near us that didn't go to my school or a public school, but went to private schools in St. Louis--Country Day and Mary Institute.

S: You expanded your social circle.

Q: Yes, quite a bit. We lived close to these people. As I was getting to the point where my friends were driving and I wasn't yet old enough to drive that was the group I generally was going with. I remember one time I took the family car and my friend was going to take me out and show me the ropes. He took his car and we went into a place called Portland Place, which is still a very, very private restricted mansion-filled place nearby in St. Louis, and it had been snowing so there was a lot of snow on the ground and not much traffic. So he drove and he'd spin his car, being quite an experienced driver. So I took and spun my car--right into a tree. At that point I had to confess that I'd taken the family car.

Things went along like that until I decided I needed a change. In the meantime, some of my friends went to this Jesuit school which was an all boys' school. And I thought, "I need something like this."

S: A little discipline here. (laughs)

Q: I talked to my mother because my father was very much against private schools. So Mother and I conspired and at the beginning of my fourth year in high school I enrolled at St. Louis University High School, which was a Jesuit school and a good one. I don't think Dad learned about it for six months.

In those days they required four years of Latin, two years of Greek, and I didn't have the two years of Greek. I had Latin.

S: This was for college entrance?

Q: Yes, and this was for graduation from this school. So they put me back into the junior year again and so I was taking those courses--I took some senior courses--but mostly I just retook the junior year as they taught it there and I got my first year of Greek in.

S: Well, you were young enough that it balanced out.

Q: Yes, I was young enough, but all my friends were seniors. The only problems that I had there--again related to discipline, I guess--is that because my friends smoked, I smoked, and only seniors were allowed in the smoking room. So I used to appear in there occasionally, and I'll never forget one time--this gets out to be a story about Bad Boy Quinn, doesn't it (laughter)--one time I'm in there and this Scholastic--they call him "Mister"--he's not yet a priest, but he's a teacher and he wears a Roman collar and so forth--and he turned out to be a very brilliant man, actually, and ended up as a widely-publicized scholar and a dean at St. Louis University--head of the Philosophy Department--and he came and said, "You're not supposed to be in here." "Well," I said, "my friends are in here, Mr. So-and-So, and I thought I'd have a morning smoke." "Well," he said, "I want you for your penance to memorize Abou Ben Adhem. Come to me and recite it."

Well, I thought, I'll show this guy. So I went through my morning classes not paying any attention to the classes--just memorizing this poem. So I sought him out at noon and rattled it off and he was mad. But there wasn't anything he could do about it. (laughter)

So at any rate one other time some of my friends who were out of high school came by on Friday when everybody was supposed to go to a benediction. So we took off and went tooting around. Monday morning I'm in chemistry class and the dean comes in. Great--Father Roach--great, big tall fellow--black hair coming up over his Roman collar. "Is

Billy Quinn in this class?" "Yes." "I'd like to see him." I stepped outside. "Did you leave school early on Friday?" "Yes, Father, but I..." "Get your books and go home." Boom. Just like that.

So Mother had to go over and they talked. I got back into school and I had to walk the far fence during noon--I don't know for how long--two weeks, every day at noon--parade the fence. (laughter) I haven't thought of that for so long. But, nevertheless, for some reason or other, I was able, scholastically, to do very well in that year and I got what they called First Honors.

I went back the next year and all my friends were gone. I said, "I can't stand this." So I guess I talked to Mother, but in any event I went down to St. Louis University and said, "I've had four years of high school. Can I get in?" Some of my friends had gone to the School of Commerce and Finance. I was told at the School of Arts and Sciences, "No, you can't." So I tried the School of Commerce and Finance and they said, "Yes, you can, but you have to get fourth year English," which I hadn't gotten. So, with the cooperation of Mother and I guess Dad just looked the other way, I went into the School of Commerce and Finance and I had a tutor in fourth year English. One of the greatest things I ever did in my life.

I wrote more poems with this guy--for this guy--and he was a retired Jesuit--retired because of health--from a very well-known family in St. Louis and he was a good scholar. We used to get together in the afternoon and I loved it. We'd talk books and write and, as I say, I began to write stuff and it was very enjoyable.

But I got in that first year Commerce and the English was "How to Write a Business Letter," and it was not only the theory of accounting, but it was keeping books and I had to have a ruler and then you do a red line and I'd smear and it was just God awful. I finished that year and went back for a little of the second year. I passed it well. Went back for a little bit of the second year and said, "I can't stand this."

So I went over to the School of Arts and Sciences and I saw the Dean, Father Mallon, who subsequently married Nancy and me, and I said, "I've got to get in here." He said, "You don't have the credits that we need. You don't have the first year credits." "I'll go to summer school. I'll do whatever you say, but I've got to get where I feel I'm getting some education."

Well, I certainly thank whatever it was that prompted me to do that. I got into Arts and Sciences; I began to enjoy it very much; I got into the theater; I got into the glee

club; but mainly I got into philosophy. I began to study philosophy as a major and I began to do very well. Meantime, I had to get additional credits in summer school, so for the summer at the end of my sophomore year and the summer at the end of my junior year I went to summer school and again--some of the best things I ever did. I had Marshall McLuhan for modern poetry one summer. Gave me an A. And I just loved it.

And I had my dear friend, who died several years ago, named Frank Sullivan, who ended up as head of the English Department at Loyola of Los Angeles. I went there and made a talk one time when he was still there and we just had a ball. We did Shakespeare. And I mean in a summer school course we read every play of Shakespeare's. We read a play a night and we'd discuss it the next day. And he required a term paper. Well, I resented that. It was summer. We had tennis to play. We had things to do and so forth. And I was griping about it in the lounge one afternoon and this fellow that I had known a little bit who was studying to be a priest, great big, tall, good-looking guy by the name of George Garrelts, very bright. I'm griping and George says, "Well, for a fee I'll write it."

I said, "You're on." A paper on Shakespeare. So George sits down and he writes this paper and he's got New Yorker cartoons illustrating it from point to point and it starts out, "Dagwood, the average man, Bumstead slams his wife and kisses the door and off he goes," and it goes on talking about the average man's view of Shakespeare. It was a brilliant piece. So I hand that in and I got the lowest grade I ever got at St. Louis University. I got a C in Shakespeare. And I knew that I knew this stuff cold. I loved it. I knew that I'd taken his exam and letter perfect because I was enjoying it so much.

Well, even though he gave me a C, he was such a good teacher--this was his first year--right out of doctorate at Yale and he was something else--so I'm going to take him that fall in Chaucer. We go into class and he starts talking about how he teaches Chaucer. There were some religious teachers, some nuns, in this class. So he says, "Sisters, for your benefit there are a couple of these tales that we won't discuss in class, but I urge you to read them at home or at the convent and get the bellylaughs that you can from it." And then he said, "Now I require a term paper." And he turned and he looked right at me. And he said, "If you're going to get anybody else to write your term paper, don't get a friend of mine whose style I can spot a mile away." So he should have flunked me or even kicked me out of school, but he gave me a C.

Well, I gradually got more and more involved in the studies and I really knew that I loved the academic life.

It came to the end of my third year including the one year in business college. There was an announcement that they were going to have a special honors program in the next year patterned after the Great Books Program at St. John's University and Chicago University. And they would also have a special tutorial type program in your major field. So I said, "Hey, that's what I want to do." And Father Mallon or whoever it was said, "This is for people who have been doing this. This is for the all A student. You have this first year in business and you have this, that and the other sort of thing." I said, "But I've got all A's in philosophy and I love it."

Well, I talked and I talked and I talked and finally they made a special situation in my case. They said, "We'll give you some assigned reading this summer and then we'll give you an examination when you return. If you pass that examination, then you may become part of this program." There were five others who were already in it and I would be the sixth.

This was two or three years after the camping experiences and the family used to go up to Grand Haven, Michigan. I think I went up to Michigan for a little while. I came back, went down to the library to get the books that they gave me for assigned reading. Not a one of them was translated; they were all in Latin. So I sat down at home at my desk with a Latin-English dictionary here, and these things here--medieval Latin--and I started to read and it was just murder except that gradually it got easier and easier. Fortunately, that medieval Latin had an English word order. It didn't have the classical type of word order. Gradually I didn't have to be looking every other word up in the dictionary and pretty soon I was going great.

I finished all this reading; they gave me an exam, I took it, passed it and I got into the program. I never had such a year of education in my life because again the Great Books Program is designed for four years and we took a book a week. And we would read the book--six of us--and we'd all get together and talk about it and drink a little beer.

One of them was a math major, one was a physicist, one was history, and two of them were English or something like that, and me, I was philosophy. So we'd read a book and have a special three-hour session in the week. We'd have an expert from someplace on the particular masterpiece that we had just read and we'd have three hours just going over it.

In the meantime I could go to any classes I wanted. I'd also have regular sessions with the head of the department as my tutor and he'd assign special readings and I'd have discussions and that sort of thing but I was on my own until the end of the year. Come the end of the year, and they let

us know very early, there was going to be a public oral exam on the Great Books. There was going to be an oral exam in our major field, participated in by all the members of the department, and then there was going to be a comprehensive written examination.

Well, we got up there in the school auditorium sitting around a table with three or four questioners and the auditorium was full on this Great Books exam and they're throwing questions at us about, you know, whether it was the Bible or any one of the books--all the way up--Milton or Lyell's Geologia or whatever it was and we all fielded. They'd address questions to each one of us.

Then I appeared before the whole department and these guys--both priests and laymen--were just throwing questions for--I don't know--a couple of hours. Then we had this thing that took about six hours--a written exam. We all passed and they gave us a special honor--we were all given degrees summa cum laude--and we marched in first and all that sort of thing and it was just marvelous.

S: It was, but that put a dent in your social life, didn't it? (laughter)

Q: You bet it did, you bet it did. It did indeed. There were very few dates. So then that summer I graduated. I was twenty and sometime during that spring I decided that I'd really like to go to law school. I'd heard about Yale Law School and that they took in only 120. You had to pass a rigorous entrance exam, but when you were in that was it--you stayed pretty much--and you went through.

S: Not much attrition once you'd made it.

Q: That's correct. So I arranged to take an exam with a graduate of Yale Law School who got it from the school and I sat in his office. So much time for each question and then go to the next question. I kept writing for several hours and I passed and I was admitted to Yale Law School. Well, my father, bless his heart, would go around...I have to tell you one other thing about him.

One, he never drove a car. He always had an assistant who worked for him who would pick him up, take him to the office, and then--here's the part that I wanted to say--he would go to lunch every day at the same table at the Statler Hotel downtown and then out to Sportsmen's Park to watch the ballgame. He was an absolute baseball devotee. His team had always been the Giants from New York, but he would go--he never had a box seat or anything. He'd always take a general admission then he'd walk around. All the gamblers knew him. "What do you think today, Mr. Quinn?" And so every single day without fail including Saturday and Sunday. And so on

Saturday and Sunday, Sundays particularly, very often my brother and I.... He'd say, "Do you want to go to the ballgame?" and he'd call a cab and off we'd go, you know, when we weren't driving.

S: Did he switch his allegiance from the Giants to St. Louis?

Q: Never, never. Always the Giants.

S: But he went to watch anybody actually. It was baseball.

Q: It was baseball. That was really something.

At any rate I was admitted to Yale and Dad was downtown, probably at the Statler, and he'd see business associates and he'd say, "My son is admitted and going to go to Yale Law School." And they'd say, "What's he going to do that for? If he's going to be a practicing lawyer in St. Louis, he either ought to go to Harvard, or he ought to go to Missouri." My dad came home and said, "If you want to go to law school, you're either going to go to Harvard or Missouri. You're not going to go to Yale Law School." (laughs) So I think I then applied to Harvard and was admitted right away.

Then I went off for summer stock and fell in love with the leading lady. Well, not the leading lady--she was the ingenue and I was the juvenile. And this was a repertory company where we were learning one play, rehearsing a second, and performing a third.

S: Was this in the St. Louis area?

Q: No, no, this was up in northern Michigan. Near Charlevoix in the vacation area. And I guess the nearest city was Traverse City. I'll never forget that. We went up there in June and it was cold and wet and we were building the theater practically.

I had been studying very hard prior to graduation and I had picked up a little cold and the cold stayed with me all the time. I got up there in that weather and it was really miserable. I began to cough a little blood, so I thought I'd better see a doctor. So I went into town, Ironton, Michigan. So with the company car, the theatrical company car, somebody drove me in. I had an appointment, saw the doctor and I went in and he laid me out on a table and took chest X-rays. He came out and said, "Well, young man, I hate to tell you, but you've got tuberculosis." He said, "Now it'll be okay. If you go to Arizona and stay quiet for a couple years, you can probably kick it."

I thought, oh, my God. Then he said, "If you want, there's a sanatorium about forty miles away. If you want to check it further, go ahead. But here's your X-ray and here, see these spots--the way they're blurred. That's active tuberculosis."

Well, I called out at the theater and I said, "Can I get a ride up to this other place?" They said, "Yes, but we can't come in for a couple of hours." I said, "That's all right with me. I'll wait." And I'll never forget walking around that town there. I'd look people in the eye and think, "You may think I'm healthy, but I've got tuberculosis." (laughter)

S: Well, of course. You deserved some self-pity at that point.

Q: Well, in comes the company car and Betty is with them. My sweetheart. Well, you can imagine. Driving forty miles. Oh, talk about a maudlin scene. (laughs) I go in and the doctor sees me at the sanatorium. He stands me up. "Put your shoulders forward." Takes a chest X-ray. I go back and sit out there for ten or fifteen minutes. He comes out. "Young man, all you've got's a bad cold." I said, "Well, what about these X-rays?" "Well," he said, "nobody should ever take a chest X-ray lying down that way. It distorts everything. You've got some scars on your lungs from maybe some childhood TB or something like that that so many people have, but with all your weight on it and taking that type X-ray it just looked like it was active TB." How about that? (laughs)

So we went through that theatrical season and got back and at that time I was so hot for the theater I decided that's what I really want to do.

S: Where was Nancy all this time?

Q: Nancy was living in St. Louis and was working. At that point I think she was working for Curtiss Wright.

S: What I meant was, where you still seeing her?

Q: On and off. I mean I had a series and she had a series. And then, occasionally, I'd see her at Parkmoor where she'd have a date and I'd secretly make a late date with her and go back and pick her up at twelve-thirty.

S: As we used to say in the olden days, you weren't "going steady."

Q: Anything but. I had a string of girls that I dated quite regularly.

At any rate I came back and I'm hot for the theater. And again I thank the good Lord that I had the sense enough to.... There was a friend of mine. I say, "Thank the good Lord." I say that advisedly because there was a Jesuit priest by the name of Father Daniel Lord and Father Daniel Lord was, I think, the most talented man I ever met.

Father Dan Lord in those days used to edit a paper and he used to write a pamphlet a month on various things mostly relating to church and youth--various things of that nature--a book a year, and every year he would write the book and music for a major musical and then he'd write not only the music and lyrics but also the skits and everything else, design and choreograph the dances, direct this whole thing, be the rehearsal pianist--hitting this whorehouse piano, you know. Absolutely.

And he knew everybody in the world of the theater. He had been technical director of King of Kings. And I had been in two or three of his shows as a soloist, as a leading man. I went to see Father Lord. "Father, I'm just back from summer stock and I'm real hot for it." I said, "I'd like your advice." Well, he couldn't have been more generous.

He said, "Bill, over the years I've directed thousands. I can name and number on one hand those that I thought had the projection to hit the back aisle and hold the audience. One of them was Archie Leach (Cary Grant)." And he named two or three others and he put me in that exalted category. "But," he said, "I'll tell you, Bill, you can have all the talent in the world but when you get out there to earn your living in the world of the theater, it's nothing but breaks. That talent can be under the bushel basket forever. And sometimes when you get there, then it takes a lot of effort to lead a normal and decent life."

He said, "You are very, very fortunate that you are also able to go to a good law school like Harvard--that you have the money and that you were able to get in--that your father's willing to pay your tuition and can handle it." He said, "My best advice to you is to keep singing, keep dancing and keep acting for your own enjoyment and that of your friends and do it all your life. But pursue that law school career." That was enough for me. I did exactly that, but I didn't do it too seriously for a little while.

END OF TAPE 1/SIDE 1

Q: My love, Betty, was in a theatrical company in Erie, Pennsylvania, and after all, I was back East. I was in Cambridge, Massachusetts. That's only about seventeen hours by rail away. So several weekends I would take off on a Thursday to go visit Erie, Pennsylvania, and come back on a Tuesday. That doesn't make for keeping up with the best

students in the country who are very seriously pursuing their profession. (laughs) I was doing okay, but I was not being serious enough.

So I finished my first year. Some of my closest friends zoomed right up to the Law Review; I didn't. I got a second level as far as scholastic attainment was concerned, but I wanted the top and I had not pursued it because I was pursuing this young lady. At one point at a party after a show in Erie, Pennsylvania, I got up and after singing a song in a nightclub, I took my class ring off and I said, "I am going to be engaged to this young lady and I present her with this ring right here and right now." (laughs) And word got back to Nancy who took up with a friend of mine quite seriously. (laughs)

S: One could not blame her at that point.

Q: So I finished that year and went back for the second year. I was on the Board of Student Advisors. Along comes December 7th. [1941] Pearl Harbor time. At that point I thought, "I'm going to do my share of fighting for my country." So I waited for the Christmas break, which was around the 15th of December. I went home and started looking around to see what I could do.

Well, my father was furious because I had a deferment. In our particular nice residential district, you know, if somebody was in school, they'd defer him. I had already let it be known that I wasn't going back to law school after the Christmas vacation. I was going to join the armed forces and fight the war.

A dear friend of mine of many years and a classmate was already in the Navy and he was in the Navy recruiting office right there in St. Louis. He said, "Well, if you're going to join the forces, you ought to join the Navy and you ought to be an officer candidate." I went down and had interviews and applications, and they found a particular program called AVS, Aviation Specialist. This was something new.

I couldn't fly, which I wanted to do, because I couldn't see well enough. They wouldn't even let me be a bombardier in the Air Force because I couldn't see well enough. So I pursued all of these things. This AVS was a new program--sort of administration in connection with naval aviation. So they said, "Just right for you. Fill out this application."

So I waited. And I waited throughout January. And into February. And I was absolutely disinherited. It was just a miserable existence as you can imagine. My father wouldn't speak to me and there I was. I wasn't working and everybody was gone--in school or in the service. So finally I decided that I would just go out and enlist in the infantry and fight

my war. And I was going to go out to Jefferson Barracks, which was an Army post nearby.

I made that known to my brother who was then stationed in St. Louis temporarily and was in the Navy. He said that he was going to be married in Birmingham, Alabama, to a girl that he had known who was a friend of the director of our camp in northern Wisconsin. (laughter) He had known her for many years and he was going to go down to Birmingham to get married. "You've got to be in my wedding. Then you can do what you want." That was around February 12. I said, "Okay, I'll wait."

So I went down to Birmingham and was in the wedding and while I was there I got a call from my friend Bill James, the Navy recruiter in St. Louis. He said, "All the applications in AVS have come back for re-interviews." It seems that this program had been set up more or less with the prodding of a well-known investment banker in New York and many of the people who came in commissioned as AVS officers were cronies and buddies and well-to-do professional people all about thirty-five years old. Well, Drew Pearson got hold of this and wrote a column and blew the whistle and so they called them all back for re-interview.

Well, I didn't fall into that pattern at all. I was twenty-two or twenty-one. So I went back and interviewed again. Then the process started. I've got this application pending and here I am sitting at home. Finally I said, "I can't do this anymore. The hell with it. I'm going back to law school and let come what may."

So I went back to law school and Easter was early that year and I got back about two days before the spring break. I got back into the room that I had before, and a couple of my very good friends--one of them had the highest grades at Harvard Law School for fifty years as it subsequently turned out--even more than Justice Brandeis--went off for the spring break and lent me their notes from the lectures I'd missed and so I started working on them.

I'll never forget because I started typing up my own case notes. Reading the cases and then reading their notes at the lectures and writing outlines of those and that's when I learned to type. And I'm up there all by myself working every day, all day. I got all the way through and I felt I was pretty well up to date. Classes started. I move in. Less than a week, I think, and I get a call from my father. "There's a telegram here addressed to Ensign William Quinn." I said, "Open it and read it." "It says, 'Report without delay as assistant aviation aide to COM 9.'"

So I went home, got sworn in, couldn't get a uniform, went up to Great Lakes. I think I had on a plaid suit or

something with a little button that said "Ensign Quinn" on it. Never had had any connection with the Navy of any kind. Hadn't even been on a Navy vessel. So I report in there and there's a yeoman there. It's a hot April day, I think, and from the gate to the administration building is about a mile at Great Lakes. And this yeoman is going to conduct me to the administration building, so I indicate my bags. And he said, "I'm sorry, sir, but we aren't allowed to carry bags," and I believed that and he walked ahead of me and I, Ensign Quinn, carried these two bags, sweating, all the way to the administration building. (laughter)

S: He probably ended up an admiral.

Q: I wouldn't be a bit surprised. But one thing I then learned was that the Aviation Aide to COM 9 was a Commander Whitehead. I saw him here just recently. He came out here as a retired admiral--not too well, but still at over ninety a striking man. And he had his deceased wife's sister--they were travelling together--and they took this around-the-island cruise because they knew the people who had the [USS] Constitution. So we went down and saw them. This was not too long ago.

But when I joined the Navy, he was off in Canada recruiting flyers who had joined up with the Canadian Air Force to come back and fly for the Navy. It turned out that he felt he needed some help in all of these things. In those days all these applications used to go through the Naval District and when they got to the Commandant of the Ninth Naval District, if they involved anything to do with aviation, then they went to him. And for some reason or other he decided that he needed somebody and maybe I might fit the bill. So he just pulled my application out and held it for a while and he was off travelling. Then he suddenly called and said, "Get that guy up here. I need him." So without any indoctrination, without anything else, here I am, Ensign Quinn. For the first three weeks I couldn't even get a uniform. And then I got involved in a very exciting thing.

It's now 1942 and the Navy is just reorganizing itself for a wartime situation. And for the training for wartime. And none of this business about having commandants on a geographic basis. They wanted to make it functional. They've got naval air technical training, they've got naval air operational training, all nationwide. So they decide to put the headquarters for naval air technical training in Chicago.

Admiral Reed, who was a great figure in Naval aviation, was going to be commander--chief of naval air technical training--and Whitehead, who was promoted to captain, was going to be chief of staff. And the only staff they had when

they started was Ensign Quinn. We went down in the Board of Trade Building and then I had the most exciting experience--starting from scratch--start writing these orders--start setting up how are we going to do this--just had a ball.

I've got to tell you first something I missed. Going back. When Whitehead finally came back and I'm there in Chicago, he and I got to be pretty good friends. Then they were just acquiring lands for practice training--practice landing fields around Illinois and Indiana--and they needed a lawyer in Indiana to go around and help with these appraisals and leases. And the commandant found out that I had one year of law school, so he said to Commander Whitehead, "Send him down there."

So I moved to Peru, Indiana. The khaki uniforms for Navy had just come in effect. Well, I walked around there and I was the first young, single Navy officer anybody there had seen and I just had--oh golly, I had such warm hospitality. And I had so many friends and I was made an honorary member of the Elks, which was a great place to eat--the only place to eat. And I got to know people in Kokomo, Indiana, and Anderson, Indiana, and every social function of any kind I was....

S: Talk about aloha.

Q: Yes, right. I'd gone home on a short leave and Nancy and I decided...well, she practically said, "Either fish or cut bait."

S: That's the nice version. (laughter)

Q: I had the other one in mind there for a minute. So we finally decided we'd get married. The word got around Peru that Ensign Quinn was getting married and they found absolutely the dream bridal house. A house on a corner, a house with two bedrooms, lovely garden, big shade tree. And they said, "We've got it for you for \$50 a month."

I went home. I'm preparing to get married, and I get a telegram from Captain Whitehead; "Return immediately." This was when the new command was all going to take effect. So instead of returning to Peru to this beautiful dream cottage, Nancy and I after our marriage took the train to Chicago, stayed at the Edgewater Beach for a couple of days, then went out and tried to find a place. We got a place in that Jack Benny town, Waukegan, and I'll never forget our first night there. Noise, railroad station, flashing neon lights and so forth. And I'd go over and draw the shade down, get back in bed and "whip" up it went--time after time. In any event, that was how we got back there.

Then we found a place on Lake Forest College campus with this professor who had just joined the Navy. His wife was going to be away. Nice home, two children and two dogs, would like to have a couple. So we moved in there and the job turned out to be very demanding. I mean Nancy was feeding the dogs, feeding the children, cleaning the house, and doing this and that. I'm at Great Lakes and I come home and dumb me, I'm a new bridegroom, and there's some tennis courts right there and I go out and play tennis while she's doing all this stuff.

When Mrs. Hall came back, we sat down at the dinner table one night and squash is served. Mrs. Hall said to me, "You're not eating your squash." I said, "I don't like squash." She said, "Well, then you can get out of this house." And they booted us out. They'd had all this service from Nancy until she got back and then that was it.

Well, we found other places. We found a one-room place right on the border between Chicago and Evanston with a Murphy bed. (laughs) And I'll never forget it. And I'd take the L--the elevated--out to Great Lakes. Quite a ride.

I'll never forget one day. This is engraved in both our memories. Nancy was having trouble getting a poached egg out and onto the toast without its breaking. We had this tiny little kitchenette and then the room and I'm seated there at the breakfast table one morning and she says, "Eureka!" I said, "What happened?" She said, "It's out and it's on and it's intact." And she starts to bring it out and she sees the yolk come streaming out from under it and in mock anger she says, "Oh!" and she went like that (holding it up) as though she was going to throw it or drop it. Off slides the egg, hits her right here, right down the front of her face. (laughs)

S: Saint Nancy sounds like quite a gal.

Q: Well, at any rate, we moved our offices into the Board of Trade Building. A very exciting time. Gradually the staff--from three it became fifty-three and more. For a long time I was what you might call the personnel officer for this nationwide command with all of these big schools all over. I was writing orders to people and trying to develop a coordinated headquarters. Then pretty soon in came a lieutenant commander and he was the man and I'm reporting to him. But we got along very well.

Things were good except I'm getting restive now. I joined to fight a war, not to shuffle papers and that sort of thing. Things were going pretty good and at one point there in early 1943 I wrote a set of orders for myself to go to the Naval Air Intelligence Center at Quonset Point, Rhode Island. I wrote the orders for myself. Well, they approved them.

So I went to that center and took an additional course in antisubmarine warfare. Nancy by that time had Billy, who was born while I was working downtown, and we were living in another place, sort of a basement apartment. I'll never forget it. It was exactly like My Sister Eileen if you remember that, because there was a big window right here and you looked out and you could see the feet going by. But it was comfortable. And that's where we were when Billy was born and she's immediately pregnant again.

So along comes Christmas of 1943. I'm in Rhode Island and scheduled to go overseas, so she decided she'd join me for Christmas. Gee, I'd made all these arrangements. I'd found this lovely little place called the Spinning Wheel Inn. There were a few other people there and I'm there a day or so early and everybody knows that my bride is coming. We're going to have a big party, and I've got sparkling burgundy, which was our favorite, and I've got Christmas gifts and I've made arrangements for the taxi--because they were so rare and this was out in the country--to pick me up, go over to the station and get my bride and bring her back.

About noon or one o'clock that day I got a phone call from Nancy. "Where are you?" "I'm in Albany." "What happened?" "The train froze." "What's going to happen?" "We're going to get on another train, but it won't stop at that little stop near the Spinning Wheel. It will only stop in Providence. It will get there at midnight." "Okay, I'll see you at midnight." No cab to be had and I'm twenty miles from Providence.

So I put on my coat, heavy coat. It was bitter cold outside. Put on my heavy coat, my Navy cap, and started to walk about nine o'clock. And I walked and I walked. No cars came by. And I kept walking and finally I saw a car coming in the distance. And I turned and indicated that I was looking for a ride. And the car turns and sort of speeds up a little bit and all of a sudden stops. So I ran over.

And these people said, "We saw your gold braid and we're going in to see our son, who's a Coast Guard officer in Providence, this Christmas Eve, just to wish him 'Merry Christmas' and we're going to midnight mass." "Well," I said, "will you be coming back this way?" "Yes." "Do you think if we could meet you after your midnight mass, we might be able to get a ride with you?" "Why, of course."

Then it turns out--coincidence--that this woman is from New York and is a great friend of my aunt's. So we go and we get to St. Stephen's Church, probably about five minutes of twelve, and it's about eight or ten blocks from the railroad station, I start off on a run.

I get to the railroad station and there's a big mob of people around. There's a big roly-poly doorman; looked like Santa Claus himself. I went right up to him and said, "I'm going to need a cab desperately when my wife gets off this train. Will you see...?" I give him five dollars and he said, "Don't worry about it. I'll take care of it." Because people were just jammed waiting to get cabs.

The train comes in. The station is underneath and the trains come in on top out in the cold. So I go up there--big crowd around to meet the train--people getting off all over the place. I'm running up and down and don't see anyone that resembles Nancy. Finally, the train's about ready to pull out and I'm the only one up there.

So I go down and I look all around at this mob of people and I can't find anybody. My God, what happened to my wife! So I went to information and I said, "Is there another section coming in?" "Oh, yes, another section of the train's coming in at one o'clock." I waited a little bit and at one o'clock I heard the train coming in and I went up there--I was the only one up there--and nobody got off the train. It just paused. And I thought, "What the hell do I do now?"

At that point the crowd had thinned out a great deal down below and there in the middle of the station, hat askew, sitting on a suitcase, is my pregnant wife. I grabbed her--I didn't even say, "Hello." I said, "Come on, dear, let's go." I grabbed the suitcase and I'm pulling her and she's trying to keep up with me. We go outside--different doorman--big crowd waiting for taxis.

I look down and I see a guy just getting out of a cab at the corner--half a block away--and somebody else waiting to get in. I said, "Come on." We ran down--this poor wife of mine--still hadn't exchanged a word hardly--to that corner just as that guy got in the cab. I hailed him. I said, "We're in an emergency situation. Could you possibly get us to St. Stephen's Church on your way wherever you're going?" He said, "Surely. Get right in. Merry Christmas."

So we got in and I said, "St. Stephen's Church, driver." And he said, "Which one?" (laughter) I said, "I don't know." But finally I figured out the general direction from which I'd come.

S: This is Naval Intelligence talking.

Q: So we got there and, lo and behold, they were just coming out of mass. We located our people and we got in the car and I said, "My God, we made it." Nancy then said that when she got off the train, there was a very nice sailor there and he said, "Madam, can I help you with your bag?" And she said, "I'd really appreciate it." "Well," he said,

"I have to run. I have to get off right away." So they were probably the first ones off the train and went right down.

S: So she was surrounded.

Q: She was surrounded and I never saw her. At any rate--this story isn't over yet. We get in the car and we start looking for the son. We drove around Providence and we went to this place. "No, he's not here." And we drove around Providence for maybe two hours. Finally, they had a visit with the son. I don't think we got back to the Spinning Wheel before four o'clock in the morning or later.

And Nancy, of course, was absolutely exhausted. But I'm ready. I've got a beautiful necklace for her; I've got iced sparkling burgundy. Of course, all the wine glasses were put away. I got two of these thick, heavy bathroom tumblers. She said, "Bill, can't we do this tomorrow?" "No, Nancy, we've got to have a Christmas toast right now. Here, open this beautiful gift." So I start to get this bottle open and I worked and I worked and my thumbs got sorer and sorer and finally, "Whap!" wet wine all over the wall and ceiling. Whereupon I pour a little bit in these two thick glasses and we take a little sip and immediately went to sleep, totally exhausted. (laughter)

Then I went overseas and had a good duty overseas. It was interesting.

S: Where?

Q: I was in the Pacific. We first took a small carrier--jeep carrier--just for transport--directly from San Francisco to Guadalcanal. From Guadalcanal I flew to Munda, which is on New Georgia Island, which is in the Solomon Islands. That's where Fleet Air Wing One was. I was to be the air combat intelligence officer with Fleet Air Wing One, which had a New Zealand squadron and a half and had, maybe, four or five Navy squadrons. They were search squadrons.

And so I was very ambitious. (laughs) I had this special training in antisubmarine warfare. There were Japanese submarines operating in the area. So I started to put together from all the various intelligence reports and the stuff that I had studied and the educational material that came out, I started to put together a paper. I gave it a masthead--had somebody draft it for me--instructions, with a little humor in it to pass out to all the pilots. And they loved it.

All of a sudden I got--or I guess my commanding officer got--something from the joint intelligence of the Pacific--JICPOA they called it--"We understand that somebody out there

is putting some sort of intelligence material out and we don't do that. There is only one place that anything initiates from and it's right back here." (laughs) So I was directed to stop publishing my paper.

We were there for sometime and it was quite active. After lunch we'd take a little nap. Promptly at two o'clock every afternoon there'd be a huge thunderstorm. The skies would open wide. That would be gone by about three-fifteen or three-thirty and there'd be the coral volleyball court and we'd all get out and play volleyball because there wasn't that much to do.

Suddenly we got very busy because we learned through the broken code of the Japanese that there were seven Japanese submarines on a line waiting up there just north of Bougainville, waiting for what they thought was going to be an American fleet coming from MacArthur's area--New Guinea. I was the only antisubmarine man in the vicinity, so I was breaking all these codes and getting all this information out. All seven of those subs were destroyed and our group had a great deal to do with it. Of course, there were surface vessels, too, but we did a lot of the spotting and that sort of thing and it was very exciting.

Next thing we knew, the South Pacific Command was being broken up into South Pacific and Southwest Pacific. This was part of the rivalry between General MacArthur and Admiral Halsey. So Halsey was going to be South Pacific and MacArthur was going to be Southwest Pacific. Munda and the Solomons were going to be in Southwest Pacific Command. Halsey didn't want to lose Fleet Air Wing One, so he ordered us back to Espiritu Santo in the New Hebrides where we had our full staff and one half of one squadron and had nothing to do all day every day for six weeks, more or less.

I remember I wrote a poem about that one that Nancy's got someplace; about the boredom and what it can do.

S: Isn't that how we got James Michener started? (laughs)

Q: I think so, I think so. At any rate we had a nice quiet little sojourn in the New Hebrides and we got ordered to support the Palau operation. And we had to go all the way back to Hawaii. That was the first time I ever set foot in Hawaii. Just overnight. Flew there because you couldn't fly over Truk. Truk was a big Japanese naval base. We flew back to Hawaii and then back out and ended up at the end of 1944 in a large bay off the island of Babelthuap, five or six hundred miles from the Philippines. Then we did a lot of searches at that time of the battle of the Philippines. I was breaking all the codes and briefing all the top commanders.

We had that terrible hurricane where several destroyers were lost and everybody was going to try to point the finger at us because we were the planes that were in the air that should have given notice of this hurricane. This was very perilous. Heads were going to fall. They needed a scapegoat and it looked like it might be right on me, except we were able to prove beyond the shadow of any doubt that we had gotten reports from planes in the area of weather disturbances and we'd sent them all right to JICPOA. But you know, for a while, that was really hairy.

S: Well, sure, they had to have somebody to blame it on.

Q: And I was going to be it. But they didn't. It wasn't so and we were able to show it wasn't.

Then we were recalled from Palau and went back to Ulithi where many of my compadres from Fleet Air Wing One were. Saw a bunch of them. They got me plastered and took all my money in a crap game the one night I was there. I got up the next morning and I was so sick I couldn't stand it. (laughs) Of course, I was sending about ninety percent of my money--just allocating it--back to Nancy, but there still had been some that had been accumulating that I picked up when I left Palau.

S: Because you really didn't have too many places to spend any of it.

Q: That's correct. So I picked this up and I had it with me and I thought this was going to be a special Christmas present for Nancy. Boom. Every cent. Every single cent. My dear friends.

I had that out of order. We went into Saipan before we went to Palau, but that's all right. Then we went back and joined the group going up to Okinawa and we got there a few days before the landings there and that was, of course, a very exciting time. We were smoked in every night and there were lots of enemy planes around and, I think, I was fortunate to be in one of the luckiest enemy attacks that I ever heard of.

This was on a bright, sunny morning. Usually those kamikazes that were flying over were student pilots and they'd strap bombs to their wings, teach them how to fly straight and level and how to dive in and that was it. Our big old seaplanes going out to search along the China coast, Korean coast, used to peel off and shoot them down. They'd

35,000 feet--up there maneuvering around and looking. So they went to what they call general quarters, the ship ready for attack. The harbor was just loaded with ships. I was on a large seaplane tender, but there were aircraft carriers, large and small, destroyers, destroyer escorts, a lot of the fleet.

This guy's just sailing around up there so they went to what they call a condition one easy, which means they'd be at general quarters, but continue ship's work. I, being the staff intelligence and operations officer, didn't have any place other than the war room for that. On the large seaplane tenders they had a huge crane on the back part so they could pick up these large planes and put them on the deck. Then they had these holds that would open up for all kinds of things, but mainly inside there was over 100,000 gallons of aviation gasoline.

All of a sudden this guy who's flitting around out there starts in. I was down in my cabin and I heard the five-inch guns, "Boom! Boom!" Then I'm getting my pistol and helmet and running up. Meantime they start in with the twenty-millimeter, then the forty-millimeter, and the fifty-caliber. And this guy's coming right on in. Here's an open hold on the St. George; here's the crane; this guy comes in like this and hits right at the base of the crane--the strongest possible part of the deck. Even so--I mean he was just plastered right against this crane. His engine went through the deck and killed about four people down below in the mess and injured about twenty-seven. The bombs broke open, what they call a low-order detonation; they did not explode. Thirty feet away was this av gas. If he had ever hit that or if those bombs had exploded, we'd have gone up in smithereens. That's what I say about luck.

Not too long after that I got orders to go home. Around July 4. Something like that. The landings were over at Okinawa and they were making plans, I guess, but I'd been overseas for eighteen months at that point, so I was due for rotation. So I got my second trip to Hawaii. I was flown back with one of the returning Fleet Air Wing One planes to Hawaii. And then they said it was murder to get home from there because everybody was trying to do so. I was out at Pearl Harbor; I never left it. I didn't see anything of Hawaii on these two trips that I had. Not a thing. I didn't know anything at all about Hawaii.

But I go out there and the guy in charge of transportation from Hawaii to the mainland was the guy who had been moved in as the Lieutenant Commander back in Chicago.

S: Under Whitehead?

Q: Under Whitehead. So I got out that day to San Francisco. Bumped into a few other young officers and we found a place to stay. It was just as tough to get a train back home. We found a place. It was the Sir Francis Drake. There was a room up at the top that had been occupied by a delegation at the original meeting of the United Nations. It was all decorated; a great big suite. Well, we got that and we were there for about five or six days and just a constant party as you can imagine.

Meantime I'm in touch with Nancy and we make arrangements. She said, "I don't really think that you can handle meeting your two children and me and all the family all at once. Why don't I come to Chicago and I'll meet you there and we can go back together?" And that's what we did. I was sporting a mustache. (laughs) So we met and had a beautiful reunion in Chicago. She went right to that old headquarters in the Board of Trade Building and several of the people were still there, so they managed to get her into a very, very nice hotel. Nice accommodations. And I went there to find out, "Where's my wife?" So that worked out well.

So while I was still home on leave in St. Louis the bomb was dropped in Japan. Then I was sent to what was then Banana River Air Station, which then became Canaveral and then Kennedy, so we just waited the war out. I was instructing there until I was released from the service.

END OF TAPE 1/SIDE 2

October 9, 1986

Q: I stayed at Banana River and I had accumulated enough points so that I could be released from the Navy before Christmas. Nancy and I and the children left about the middle of December from Florida to drive back to St. Louis. Then I was scheduled to resume my education at Harvard Law School with the semester starting in January or the end of January.

We drove back and we stopped one night in Birmingham, Alabama, where my brother's in-laws lived and I had some friends there going back to the days of boys' camp. Of all places, it got so cold in Birmingham, Alabama, that my poor car froze completely. I was supposed to leave there bright and early the next morning and I couldn't get out until about noon. We had to tow that old Buick all around to eventually warm it up sufficiently so that it would run. (laughs)

Then the next night (this was quite a trip) we stopped in Jackson, Mississippi. We got up and had breakfast early

because we were going to take the final lap to St. Louis. No car key. It had just vanished. Only key that I had. (laughs) So we had to wait in Jackson until about ten o'clock in the morning until we could get a key artisan to come and make a key so that we could make the last lap home. That was really something.

We got home and enjoyed Christmas with our families and then, as I recall, I set out to drive to Cambridge ahead of time and find a place to live. Nancy and the children were going to come up later. I drove with a friend of mine who was just entering Harvard Law School. I think we set off bright and early in the morning after having been to a party the night before and it was very cold and snowy. As I recall, we took off at such an early hour that there was just a white expanse there as we crossed the bridge and we didn't know when we were on the road or off the road. We were just creeping along and I had no heater in this old Buick. (laughs) It was a most unpleasant drive, let me tell you.

I remember I had a heavy, heavy coat on and we went in to one place which was a combination gas station and small store. They had a great big pot-bellied oven in there to keep warm and I backed up against that to get nice and warm, and all of a sudden I smelled something burning. (laughs) Here was my best overcoat and it had this scorched area where all the fuzz was taken off right at the seat. We got back to Cambridge.

S: That's a long haul from St. Louis to Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Q: Yes, it is. It was not a pleasant drive.

When I got back, I started looking for a place to live; it was not easy. A lot of returning veterans with families were there. Some had come earlier.

S: And you were hitting between semesters while a lot of them had been there from the beginning.

Q: Yes. I found sort of a ground floor apartment on Commonwealth Avenue down in Boston, which I thought was going to be quite nice. Nancy came and took one look at this and the distance and the location and how are we going to take care of two children in what was really one large room type of thing with a kitchenette. So we got out of that one as fast as we got into it. (laughs)

We looked around and found a place that served us very well. It was anything but fancy. It was off Porter Square, which is not in the fashionable area of Cambridge at all, and it was a second-story type of thing. Somebody lived on the first floor. We went up our own steps to the second floor

and we had an attic above that. Our heat came from down in the basement. We had to stoke our own little furnace every morning.

Of course there was no place to park, so I used to park in a filling station after it closed. I'd go in there and park illegally and I had to get over there by six o'clock in the morning to get it back out. (laughs) But with it all, it worked. We put the two cribs up in the attic and we had a good-sized kitchen. It had a gas water heater and a wood stove. We had an oil heater in the linoleum-floored living room. I had a desk right over by the window. I'd come home and at that time I became a member of the Board of Student Advisors. I guess I'm getting a little ahead of myself there. I came and started school.

S: You were about halfway through law school when you came back?

Q: Yes, I had finished a year and a half. I had left in December of 1941, went back briefly and then went into the Navy. One of my first efforts when I got there was to see if I couldn't get right into the third year to get out of school early and get to work. I'd had four years in the Navy, I had two children and pretty quickly another one on the way, so I went in to see the assistant dean about going directly into the third year. I hadn't taken any exams for the second year. He thought that was a pretty unusual request and Harvard Law School didn't do that very often.

At any rate, after talking to him he said, "I'll tell you what I'll do. I will review your record after the first semester." This was a tri-semester, an accelerated program to get people out. "I'll review your record after the first semester and if it is good, I will let you go right through and finish with third year courses without having to go back and take the second year courses over and take the exams."

One reason why I am so grateful to Harvard Law School and will be as long as I live (and I give them money frequently) is because when we were still in Florida, I was approached by my commanding officer, as the result of some things coming from Washington, making me an offer to be a permanent lieutenant commander in the Navy and make that my career. It was tempting because I had these children and no funds.

S: Back to the security angle.

Q: Yes, yes. I still thought I'd rather be a lawyer. I wrote to the acting dean of the law school who was Dean Edmond Morgan, a very great professor and authority on the law of evidence. He had taken over as acting dean because the dean was off on some governmental assignment. I wrote

and I said, "You may remember me," because he had been the faculty advisor of our law club just before I left. I said that I really wanted to return to law school, but I was going to have to have a job. I was wondering if they had any facilities for getting law-related jobs, like a research assistant or a library assistant, so I could work while I was in school.

I got a letter back from Dean Edmond Morgan, God bless him. He said, "Bill, of course I remember you." The Dean went on to say that if I wanted a job, he could arrange for me to get a job that would be law related, but he said, "You know, you've been out for four years and coming back into school is not going to be easy. My recommendation to you is that you come back and spend full time at school. I took the liberty of looking up your academic record before you left for war and I find that it was good enough to warrant your getting a scholarship." He said, "Since the GI Bill is paying your tuition, the school will give you the cash equivalent." And they did. All due to his initiative.

I went back there and had some money coming in. I was then also able to get on the Board of Student Advisors as they called it and that paid an honorarium--a hundred twenty-five a month or something like that. Between those things and without any requests home for money, we were able to do it. We had these two little children and this very modest little apartment.

S: But you didn't owe anybody, you weren't obligated and you were able to make it.

Q: That's correct. And we had some very good friends who had come back after the war. We had our own little social life. We had a family life that was pretty intense and I was studying a great deal. I mean, it was not easy. At the time when I was serving on the Board of Student Advisors, it was several hours a week of work. For recreation we'd get a sitter and go to a movie one night a week or maybe we'd drink a little beer over the weekend. That was about it. (laughs) But it was a good life. We worked at it.

I remember we got into the summertime, July, and my birthday was coming up. Nancy decided she'd give me a surprise birthday party. The first thing I knew was about two days before my birthday. She sat up in this great big double bed we had in the attic with one crib over here and one crib over here in sort of a little niche. She sat up and she said, "Bill, I have to tell you something." "What's that?" "Well, I have planned a birthday party for you. It may have gotten a little out of hand. I've got Professor Scott and I've got Professor Cox and I've got Professor So-and-So and Dean Morgan. They're all coming and I think maybe you

ought to check to see if there's anybody else that should be coming."

She had gotten half the law faculty and many of my friends all coming to this party in this tiny little place. Well, I helped and we did invite a couple of more people to round it out. People who might have been omitted. We got a few students who would come and serve cocktails. She got a couple of her friends and got a whole bunch of shrimp and they were peeling shrimp all day long the day of this party.

We got the place all cleaned up and the party was going to start at five. Five to seven was the style in the old days in Cambridge. I think I was in a tee shirt when promptly at four o'clock the bell rings. I have to go down this long flight of steps to open the door and there's Dean and Mrs. Morgan. "Oh, did we come on the wrong day?" "Absolutely not, Dean. It was at five o'clock." "Oh, well, we'll be back." They went off and promptly at five o'clock they were there. The first people. They didn't drink. As I said, I was so beholden to him for that arrangement to come to the law school, so we sat with stilted conversation. Nancy was taking care of the children and I was talking to them.

Finally, a few more people came. Then the Morgans left. The next thing you know--we've got these two or three white-coated students and we're serving nothing but straight-up manhattans and martinis, which was the habit in those days. These boys with their trays were moving in and out, holding the drinks up high, and the mob of people. (laughs) Do you know--I think it gradually thinned out--that that party lasted until nine-thirty? Not only that, but a professor who shall be nameless had to be carried down that long flight of stairs and driven home. One of the very top scholars who was a good friend of mine was totally schnocked. (laughs) You can imagine. Nothing but straight-up cocktails for about four hours. It was really something.

That was in July and a couple of months later I got a letter from the secretary of the law school. My grades were quite good at that point; in fact, I was at the top of the class in a couple of things. I got a letter from the secretary of the law school saying that a person was coming to interview students of a certain grade group and I might be interested. I said, "Okay." I'm about to start looking for a job and this is a good opportunity.

S: Could I interrupt you? You said that you had asked if you could go through in the shortened period and they said they would review your grades at the end of the semester. Obviously, that worked out okay.

Q: They did and the dean said, "Yes, you can go right through and take your third year courses and graduate next February." Now it was approaching autumn and between the second to the last and the last semester--it was about November or October--I was beginning to make my plans for a trip to go interview law firms to try to find a job when I graduated the following February. I was just in the process of trying to plan that when I got this letter from the secretary of the law school saying that there was this person who wanted to interview. I agreed to do so.

I got there at the appointed hour and another friend of mine, a fellow by the name of Ernie Sergeant who is now one of the managing partners of Ropes and Gray in Boston, was just coming out after having talked to this man. He turned to me and he said, "The man's from Hawaii!" "Hawaii?" Well, I said that I'd go in and it would be good practice. It was Garner Anthony. Garner was the head of Robertson, Castle and Anthony here, which was then one of the large firms because it had about six lawyers. We now have more than eighty.

Garner was flushed with the great victory that he'd had in the Supreme Court that year having the martial law in Hawaii declared unconstitutional. He was a very colorful man. He wore a rather wide-brimmed hat and I think he wore a feather lei on it. He was naturally a little swarthy and he was sunburnt. All of this impressed me. I was taking at the time a constitutional law course and was very much interested and involved in it.

Garner and I started to talk and I wasn't the least bit interested in working for him, so I was very much at ease. We had a nice conversation about various things--constitutional law, in particular, I guess--and I left.

Nancy picked me up that night at the Board of Student Advisors to go back home, and I said that I had just talked to somebody from Hawaii. What do you know about that? "Hawaii?" she said. We laughed about it. I did do one thing; I looked it up. Where is Hawaii? What is this firm and that sort of thing. But I paid no more attention to it.

A few weeks later I started off for interviews. I had appointments with some large law firms in major cities. I was going first to St. Louis where I had grown up; then to Chicago, Washington and New York. I had appointments in all four places.

While I was in St. Louis, the first thing I learned was that they didn't care where you were in your class, nobody paid more than \$250 a month. I subsequently learned that that was a nationwide agreement. Illegal, but(laughter) No, really, the major law firms had all determined that they weren't going to get in competition for certain law students

from certain schools, so they said, "We'll let them make their choice and then maybe after six months, we can adjust."

Well, \$250 wasn't very much for me and my family. I was considering one of the law firms in St. Louis that had made that offer and I was going to continue on my journeys when I got a call from Nancy. She said, "There's a cablegram here for you." I said, "Well, open it." It was from Garner Anthony making me a job offer. If I'd pay half of my expenses for moving the furniture, he offered \$333 a month. I got to talking to Nancy and I said, "Well, what else is new?"

It was in November and she was back in Boston and it was snowing and it was sleeting. It was cold and it was dirty. She said, "The children go out in their snowsuits and they play and they get wet and they have to tinkle and they come in and I take the wet snowsuits off and I put the dry snowsuits on." She went on like that as only.... She was at that point, I guess, eight months pregnant and she was carrying on as only a pregling can do. I said, "Well, Nancy, maybe we ought to go to the South Sea Islands. We can always come back." She said, "I'd like nothing better." I said, "Okay." I hung up the phone, cancelled the rest of my appointments, wired an acceptance to Garner Anthony and went back to Cambridge.

When the word got out among my classmates that I was going to the South Sea Isles, it was quite a story. (laughter) The baby was born on December 12 and in those days they used to keep you down for quite a while and in the hospital for a little while--and so as the Christmas holidays started, Nancy was still fairly infirm and nursing her baby.

I remember one time Professor Barton Leach was having a party and I went to the party. It was an afternoon party at his lovely home there outside of Cambridge. I went with some friends. I got to talking to him and he had been a colonel and been stationed out here. He had known Garner Anthony and so we got to talking. He thought this was a great move. He had a number of reasons for that, one of which was that they had no local law school. This was a mainlander talking. They don't have a local law school so when people go away to law schools they go to good law schools. They can afford it. So you have a good bar there and it's small. He painted quite a nice picture.

At any rate, we celebrated Christmas and shortly thereafter, in January I guess, we took our final exams. Then they were going to have a graduation sometime in February, but I wasn't going to stay around for that and didn't. We packed up the kids, and the baby blankets and the mattresses, and everything else and drove back to St. Louis.

I'll never forget. If you'd ever seen Okies, we were they. We had this '36 Buick...

S: The same Buick?

Q: The same Buick and the back seat was loaded and at about the top of the seat level was this mattress and here are the two little boys up on top and Nancy sitting with the baby in the front seat. (laughter) We made it to St. Louis and we had a nice visit with the families. Of course, everybody was concerned that we were all leaving. Mother had a black maid who was very light in color and I had known her for some years, Lorena. One time when we were there, Lorena came to me and said, "I'd like to go with you, Mr. Bill." I said, "Lorena, I can't afford to pay you very much, but I'd be delighted and if you come you'll be a member of our family and when I make it, you'll make it, too." By gosh, my mother said, "That's all right with me." So when we set out we had the great advantage of having a maid with us to help take care of the children. Wasn't that a wonderful thing?

S: Well, if anybody in the world ever deserved a break, it was Nancy. (laughter) Believe me!

Q: That's true. That's very true. We were going to go by train to Los Angeles and then take the Matsonia to Hawaii. We had Lorena with us to take care of the children on a three-day train ride and the ship and everything. My old friend Bill James arranged to see us off at Union Station. My father was there, my mother was there, a few friends were there and all of a sudden from the other end of Union Station we hear the sound of a trumpet and some drums. Out comes a small contingent of little black boys--two of them playing the drums, one tooting this horn and a couple of others carrying this huge banner about thirty feet long or more--"U. S. Deports Quinn. Farewell, Old Pal." Well, I thought it was very funny, but my father was furious. (laughter) That was the way we left St. Louis.

S: It must have been hard on the families.

Q: It was.

S: In those days it was like going to the end of the world. And thinking of the grandchildren.

Q: It was hard. And it was hard on Nancy. It was hard on us, too. Very tough. We made it to Los Angeles. Nancy had a cousin there and he took us out a little bit. We had Lorena to take care of the children.

I don't know how one can be so dumb. The day we were going to leave to go to the docks and board the ship, I had finished packing and Nancy was doing a lot of last minute

things with the children and getting herself fully packed. I think her cousin was going to pick us up at ten-thirty and sailing might be at two o'clock or maybe even four. I think you boarded at one.

I went out to take a walk. We were at a downtown hotel in Los Angeles. I saw a jewelry store. Great huge sign, "Going Out of Business. Auction. Everything Going for Pennies." Quite a crowd in there. I'm going to take a look and see what they do here; I'm looking; I'm watching. Nobody's buying anything. This fellow's out there and he's offering this and that. Knockdown price. Nothing's happening.

He holds up this diamond ring and he says, "Here's a diamond ring for (I forget) \$300." No response. He said, "I can't believe that nobody's interested in these values. I'm going to take another ring here." They had diamonds. "For \$300." Before I knew it I lifted my hand and he immediately said, "Sold!" Well, it took just about all the money I had to travel with right there and right then. I got back to the hotel and told Nancy that I had spent what little money we had on a couple of diamond rings. (laughter) Parenthetically, we took them in a couple of years later and they appraised for a little more than I had paid for them, and at one point we did put them together and made a very nice ring for Nancy.

S: But at the time....

Q: That was not the time. I don't think I even got my hand up. I was just sort of thinking that I could start the bidding and see what happened or something like that. (laughter)

S: Nancy probably decided not to let you out by yourself for a long time.

Q: I'm sure she did.

We got on the Matsonia and we had separate sittings. Nancy and I had a nice table and Lorena would take the children to the first sitting. That worked fine except that Nancy got seasick for the first two or three days. That was bad. Anyway, we made it and I'll never forget when we came to Honolulu harbor. We had made some friends on the ship and there was one fellow on the ship that I had known in the Navy. He was a good friend of a friend of mine from the Navy, so we had quite a close relationship. His wife's brother was quite prominent out here as head of Standard Oil at that time.

As we drew near, the boat used to come out to meet the ship and people got on carrying flower leis. Our friends,

the Wards, received leis. Nancy and I felt a little forlorn. We drew into the harbor and that's where I heard for the first time the Royal Hawaiian Band and a baritone and a soprano singing "Ke Kali Nei Au" and loved it. We draw up and Nancy and I are ready to get off the ship and I don't know anybody. Everybody's got flowers and being met.

Finally, we get off with our little entourage. I think we were already down off the ship and a rather distinguished gentleman came up and said, "Are you by any chance Mr. Quinn?" I said, "Yes." He said, "I'm Alfred Castle. Garner Anthony is unable to come to meet you today, so I have come." A perfectly wonderful man. One of the great gentlemen.

He took us to the Moana. We were going to stay there until we found some place to go. We went out to the beach that first afternoon and all of us got terribly sunburnt. Children, me, everybody. Terribly sunburnt. Blistery sunburnt. (laughter)

One of the partners in the firm of Robertson, Castle, Tommy Waddoups, lived out on Portlock Road near Koko Head. He was just about to take off on vacation. He had a friend, a Hawaiian couple, who lived out toward Portlock in Kuliouou on Elelupe Road and they were going to house-sit in his house, so their house was going to be available for a while so I could rent that. We stayed only a day or so at the Moana. I had gone down by bus to Robertson, Castle and Anthony, and met people and that sort of thing.

Actually, Alfred Castle and Linda Castle, his very distinguished wife (the only thing I can say is if you ever want the perfect picture of a dowager, she was it) drove us out to Elelupe Road. This was a nice house, a modest house, but a nice house in the valley there. Beautiful surroundings. I'll never forget as we drove out there it was sort of a misty rain and it just looked like we were right into the rainbow the whole time. One of those days when the rainbow's right there--the end of it. So we got to our house and it had a nice yard.

The first weekend we were there, I guess, Josephine Ikua who was the friend who was staying in Tommy Waddoups' house invited us to come out there since we were her tenants. We went out and Tommy had a lovely home on the ocean at Portlock. We were sitting outside and talking and having a beer and the children were playing. I asked Josephine, "What was that song that they were playing as we came into the harbor?" She said, "Oh, you must mean 'Ke Kali Nei Au'." I said, "That was a lovely duet. I really enjoyed it." "Well," she said, "I've got the music." She went in and got the music. She had the voice of a bird. She was a professional singer. She headed the group that played at

Halekulani. Alice Fredlund, who is still there, was with her group. She had a lovely, effortless, soprano voice. So we sat out there in the yard and I learned "Ke Kali Nei Au" and we sang it together until I knew it.

It was only a few days later that through them we were invited to a baby luau. Our first luau. This was a big one. Dr. Uluko. This was his son's first birthday and he had a mob. Two or three sittings. Not a haole in the bunch. It was the first time that we sat down and ate poi, choking on it as it clung to the roofs of our mouths. During the course of this, Josephine's group is playing on the stage.

The next thing I know I get called and she says, "I've got a great surprise for you. I've got a malihini haole boy here and I want you to hear something." The crowd all gathered around and she and I did "Ke Kali Nei Au" and these people couldn't believe it because in those days, except for the band and they did it very seldom, the way that song was mostly heard was with George Kainapau (who was a male soprano and he would take the soprano role) and the group playing with him would take the other. It was really a solo on the soprano side and not a love duet, which it really is. So Josephine and I sang this and it was a sensation. They couldn't believe it from a mainland haole. They elected me a kanaka and a kamaaina right there and then.

It didn't stop there. It wasn't too long afterwards that there was a Bar Association dinner at the Pacific Club--the old Pacific Club. Garner Anthony had a table and invited us to come. I don't think I was a member of the Bar Association and I certainly wasn't a member of the Bar. In those days there was a year's residence requirement, since held unconstitutional, before you could be admitted.

Anyway, we were at the Pacific Club and I didn't know a soul. Not a soul. Except that there's a musical group there going from table to table--Josephine. She came to our table and said, "Come on, Bill." Here I got up and sang a duet with this gal. Brand new young lawyer in town. I didn't know anybody and there I was performing.

After dinner, people were moving about a little and I think I went over to the bar to get a drink. Standing there was a very attractive lady, who looked like her hair was prematurely white. She introduced herself as Nancy Corbett. I learned that she was the wife of Judge Gerry Corbett. She said, "Have you ever done anything in the theater?" I said, "Yes, I have, as a matter of fact. I was in summer stock." She said, "Have you heard of Mr. Roberts?" I said, "Yes, I read the book and I understand that it just opened on Broadway within the last few months with Hank Fonda in it and it's a great success." "Well," she said, "we're going to do

it here. Will you read for a part?" I said, "I don't know why not."

We made a date to go into Waikiki on Saturday. I met Elroy Fulmer for the first time. Elroy was the director of the Community Theater. Very well known around here because he'd been at Punahou for years. I started to read. He handed me the Roberts part to read. So I read this and he says that I'd hear from them. A few days later I got a call, "Will you play Mr. Roberts?" I said, "Sure," not knowing what I'd gotten into because it was a long, long role with lots of pages. Point one. Point two; I was pretty darn busy trying to get myself organized. We started rehearsals and I met one of my dearest friends who was then the president of ...

END OF TAPE 2/SIDE 1

Q: ...the theater, Alex Castro, a very well-known name here. He had been very active as a young person--my age, maybe a year or two older. He had been very active about the community doing all kinds of things. He was president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Alex and I became quite good friends. He was going to play Ensign Pulver. He told me, "Elroy asked me down there and I was going to read for and play Mr. Roberts and then you came along, so I got this instead." (laughter)

S: Ensign Pulver would have been more fun and wasn't as difficult as yours.

Q: Oh yes, he was a perfect Pulver. I always said he wasn't tall enough maybe. This was what he thought. At any rate, I started going to those first rehearsals and I'll never forget it. Elroy had done a superb job of casting. He'd gotten a bunch of guys--all local and they knew each other well. They'd gone to school together and he didn't try to get them to learn their lines. All the crew of the good ship Reluctant. They came to rehearsal with a case of beer and I began to think, what in the world have I gotten into here? I'm trying to learn all these lines and these guys are having a party. What happened was that they learned their lines by osmosis without ever losing the slightest bit of spontaneity. They were really the star of that show, Mr. Roberts, the crew.

It ended up that we had a great time. We pulled little jokes on each other. I finally got to know them all. I got over the initial hump. It was a great introduction for me to the community.

S: I'm sure that now, looking back, you realize how difficult coming into this community could have been had you not had these breaks.

Q: Exactly. A song here and that led to a part in the play. I'll never forget when the play started. It was announced in advance that it could only run for so many performances because two or three of the cast members had to leave. It opened at Punahou, Dillingham Hall I guess it is, and the first night it was about half full. You couldn't believe it. Here's a show that was still standing room only on Broadway. However, by the third night they were putting seats in the aisles and turning people away. When they finally stopped (I think we ran one or two extra performances in that limited period), there was great outrage--letters to the editor. "They can't do this." It really was a great show.

Two things that happened are memorable to me. One was that Elroy found out that I knew Hank Fonda--that I had experiences with him during the war. Actually at one time I had taken part in fishing him out of the water from a dangerous condition and had taken him to my cabin and fed him some illicit whiskey. I even gave him an extra bottle to take back to his ship. So we knew each other.

When Elroy found out that I knew him, he said, "Why don't you write him a letter and say that you're doing it out here and warn him that whatever you get back might be used for publicity purposes?" I wrote a letter to Fonda and not too long later I got a big, long letter back. "Dear Bill, Glad to hear that you've got the opportunity to play this great part. Let me tell you a few things that have happened." He went on to talk about how, when they had an opening pre-run in Boston, they had imposed considerable censorship on some of the lines in the show. The worst was right at the very beginning. At the very beginning of the show, crew members are sitting up topside and they're polishing binoculars. One looks and doubletakes. This has been going on for forty-five seconds quietly. The very first line of the show is, "My God, she's bare assed." Fonda said that in Boston they had to say, "My God, she's naked." He said it was just a thud.

Anyway he told me lots and lots of things that happened. How the goat went over to the side and relieved himself into the orchestra pit. Then he enclosed a letter. "Dear Bill, We of the New York cast will be thinking of you in Honolulu as you open Mr. Roberts, et cetera," for publication. It was wonderful.

Another thing was that there were all these lines and this was more of a missionary town than it is today. There were certain arbiters including Louise Dillingham and Una Walker, who is still alive today at ninety-nine--a lovely lady--and one or two others. [Una Walker, Mrs. H. Alexander Walker, died May 6, 1987] Elroy invited this group of ladies to one of the dress rehearsals to listen to the show. When

it was over, they turned the lights up and, "What do you think?" Mrs. Louise Dillingham said, "Well, you just use the word 'ass' too much." I told the story of Fonda right then and there. And they said, "Maybe so." Some of the other lines that were really bad just went right over their heads, I guess. I think we put on the most unexpurgated version of Mr. Roberts here than was put on any place including New York. And it was a hit. That was fine.

In the meantime, I was getting quite busy in the practice of law. Our firm was a good firm. Garner was the city's outstanding trial lawyer. Maybe he and one other. They didn't have any young men. I was the first associate. They had five partners. As fast as I wanted to get into things, I could.

The first thing I remember doing, and it was an unusual experience at that time, was that a battle was going on between the bus company and the police. The bus company was then privately owned and when the bus drivers went through the narrow streets of Honolulu, they'd often have to pull way out to make a turn. Every time they'd pull out on the other side, some police officer would give them a ticket. Every day I would go down to the police court with about thirty tickets in my hand (laughs) and we'd fight every one of these. I was getting a lot of that sort of practice. Every single day.

Also I had an unusual experience--talking about a year's residence requirement. I went in on some federal matter and Judge Delbert Metzger, who was a colorful figure in his own right, was sitting on the bench, so he swore me in and admitted me to the federal bench although I was not admitted in state court. Then about a couple of months later--I was still in my first year--Garner and I went down. A case was coming up and I was going to try it. Garner came down, mainly, to introduce me to the judge. This is in open court. The judge was Frank McLaughlin who was also a Harvard Law graduate.

Frank said to Garner, "Can you come into chambers for a minute?" So we recessed and Garner and I went into chambers with the judge and Frank said, "Garner, Bill can't try this case. I know Bill (and we had gotten to know each other socially right after I got here) and he's not admitted to the bar." I said, "But I am, your honor. I was admitted by Judge Metzger a little while ago." He said, "Judge Metzger had no right to do that. You can't be admitted to the federal bar if you're not admitted to the state bar."

If you look at the registrants in the book in the Federal Court as to who was admitted to practice, you'll see 1947--William F. Quinn; 1948--William F. Quinn. (laughs) This is all leading somewhere.

About that time--maybe a little bit later but I'm still not admitted--I've taken the bar exam and I know that I was number one--they told me. There was a big case coming up on Maui involving a number of the major lawyers in this town. Baird Kidwell of this firm was in it; Russell Cades was in it; O. P. Soares, head of the Republican party, was in it. We had a client there. It was a major case involving the Hana Belt Road. Willie Crozier, a very colorful person on the scene, was the contractor and it had lots of issues. Judge Cable Wirtz on Maui was the judge.

The case was just starting and people were entering their appearances at the very beginning. I'm sitting in the back of the court room. They were setting a time to start proceedings a few weeks later. The judge said, "Is anybody here representing John Gomez Duarte?" I spoke up from the back of the court. "I am your honor. I'm not yet admitted to practice, but by the time the matter comes up I will be."

We'd go up there every week and it lasted for five or six weeks, and for a young lawyer that was quite a trial to have. But one of the things that happened to me--this was in 1948--the case went on, off, on, off. I had arrived here in the spring of 1947 and this case was in the fall of 1948. I've gotten my client's wife (who had all the money) out of the case, so that was a great victory. I'm arguing passionately on all these various motions and Russell Cades and I--we've been friends ever since. We talk all the time about all the discussions we used to have about philosophy and theater and everything while we were on Maui so long ago.

But O. P. Soares came to me. He was head of the Republican party and he said, "We've got a Lincoln Day dinner coming up after the turn of the year in February." Our case had been going on and off and I guess we were already past the turn of the year. It would go for a week, stop for a few weeks, go for a week, so it had already moved into that span of time. He said, "Would you make our Lincoln Day talk to the Republicans for me?" I wasn't a Republican or a Democrat.

When I left the law school, we were having a party one time and people said, "You ought to be a politician. What are you going to do? Which party are you?" I said, "I've never been in a party." I'd been in the military for some time and I don't think I had ever voted in a federal election. I remember saying this so well, "Well, I could either join the Democrat party and drag my feet or the Republican party and push." So here O. P. Soares likes the way I've been addressing the court or something, and you have to remember that in the fall of 1948 Dewey got licked and Truman was president and the Republicans were really in the

doldrums. I guess that was why they were scratching around looking for somebody to talk.

Mary Noonan ran the Republican Club here in Kewalo up above the Kewalo Inn, I think it was. They were going to have a Republican gathering there and would I talk? I said, "Okay, I will." The next time I came back, I went right to the library and got a bunch of books on Lincoln. That's how naive I was. (laughs) If they have a Lincoln Day dinner, they want to hear about Lincoln. I put together quite a nice talk about Lincoln. The night of the affair we were over on Maui still. I came back and was met at the airport by Eugene Beebe, who was one of the leading attorneys in town and a leading Republican. He took me right to the headquarters.

There was quite a group of people there. I remember among others Art Rutledge, representing the union. They didn't have much of a facility because, as I recall, I had to put my notes on a music stand. So I talked and I spoke about Lincoln. I had some rather good anecdotes. (laughs) I became a Republican.

It was sometime shortly thereafter--maybe a year or so--that I had a neighbor across the way, whom we also saw this past summer. They came back here. They moved away twenty years ago. His name was Ken Conningham. Ken was treasurer of the Gas Company, but more relevant he was also secretary of the Republican precinct club. In those days, the precinct club extended from Kahala all the way out to Waimanalo. Then you have to recognize that Aina Haina had just started to be developed and there was no Niu and no Hawaii Kai. Where Aina Haina is, there was still an operating ranch.

S: Was that the Hind-Clarke dairy?

Q: Yes, and right there at Kealaolu and Kalaniana'ole was the great big Joe Fatt's restaurant and a big bus station. So there was very little. At any rate, Herb Keppeler who had at first been a real estate agent with Bishop Estate and then became a Bishop Estate trustee...in those days he was still in his agency situation and he had been president of the precinct club for maybe ten years or more and he felt that he'd had enough.

You must remember that these were the days when everybody was a Republican. Ken Conningham came to me and said, "Would you consider being nominated to be president of the precinct club?" I said, "All right." So I went to the meeting with the nomination and maybe there were forty or fifty people there. Among others there was Libby Kellerman who was a strong and very articulate Republican and a very independent-thinking person.

Ken or somebody got up and said, "Here's our nominees for the precinct offices." Libby took the floor and said, "This sounds to me like you're just rubber-stamping. This sounds to me like a conspiracy to just put some officers in without having anybody having a proper say." The end result was that Peter Dillingham was also nominated and they postponed the election. Peter came from along the Kalaniana'ole area and in the vicinity of Aina Haina, which as I said was building up at that time, and I lived out on Portlock Road. I didn't live in Tommy Waddoups' house or anything like it, but I lived on the other side of the road. Nancy and I had gotten a house out there. The house had been moved in. Old military. It was nice and we had a big yard.

At any rate, what I thought I had accepted, a job just to accommodate somebody, ended up as a contested election. This election got front-page attention from time to time. There were motorcades from Portlock going down to Aina Haina and motorcades from Aina Haina going to Portlock, and a big battle between Quinn and Dillingham for president. We signed up members of that precinct club. By the time of the election (I won the election) we must have had 400 members. It was the start of something great.

Libby Kellerman was absolutely right. We had people active. We had people interested. I started having monthly meetings and I started having programs. I'd invite people to come speak and one of those I invited to speak about 1952 or 1953 was Joe Farrington. Joe was running for delegate to Congress. He was going to be on my program as the leading speaker. We went through some of the other business. We had a good crowd. We were meeting there at the Aina Haina school, which was just being built, or maybe it was the old dairy building.

I had my agenda and before I put Mr. Farrington on, as a little inspiration or something, I gave a little fight talk introducing Delegate Farrington. So he spoke. A few days after that I got a call from Farrington or somebody representing him. Would I be a speaker for him in the campaign? I said, "Sure." I started going out to these rallies speaking for Delegate Farrington. I guess I got to be known a little bit after that.

Then I got to know Neal Blaisdell and Blaisdell in 1954 was running for mayor. He was running against the incumbent Johnny Wilson. Johnny Wilson had come back, having been in politics a generation before. Neal Blaisdell was running against Johnny Wilson. That was the first time when the Republicans decided all that they wanted to do was get rid of Wilson in the primary because Wilson was running against an unknown fellow who had been around somewhat and who was sort of brash and noisy by the name of Frank Fasi. So the Republicans all went over and voted for Fasi to dump Wilson

and that was exactly what happened. Then they were coming back to vote for Neal.

I got a call from Nelson Prather who was one of Neal's campaign managers. A longtime friend of Neal's. This was about two weeks before the election. Nelson said, "Somebody's given us fifteen minutes of television. Would you take it for Neal?" I said, "Fifteen minutes of television! What can I do for fifteen minutes on TV?" He said, "We can't let it go. Can't you do something?" Well, I thought, I guess I can. I remembered Bishop [Fulton J.] Sheen. Bishop Sheen working out of his library, sitting on the desk, going over and pulling out a book. I didn't have much time, but I got a book of Aesop's Fables and picked out a fable where I could identify Frank with one animal and Neal with the other. I took the book and cut out the middle of it and put my notes in there. Then I said, "Get me a desk and something that looks like a library." I did the whole damn fifteen minutes.

I guess it went all right. I had a number of calls. One in particular that I remember was a real acid, difficult circuit judge who called me up to compliment me. I said, "Well, I guess I made it with that one." (laughs) That was it and by that time I was embarked. When Neal became mayor, he asked if I wanted an appointment. I said, "I really can't. I'm not interested." "Well," he said, "we're going to try to develop a city charter for Honolulu. Ballard Atherton is going to chair a committee--a Charter Commission. Would you serve on that?" "Well," I said, "I think I'd like to do that."

I got on this Charter Commission for the first charter and it was very interesting. Bob Dodge, who was a Democrat and we were sort of friendly opponents--we had great mutual friends back in St. Louis--was vice chairman. It was the first time I'd done something like that. We worked very hard on that. We had experts from public administration service and the Municipal League, of which I've been an active member ever since. It had model charters. We spent a lot of time.

At that time the major question that we had was whether we should have a city manager or a strong mayor. Because we were a territory, and after a lot of debate and a lot of thought and a lot of discussion and a lot of consultation, we decided that since the people of Hawaii did not elect their governor and did not have any voice in the naming of their judges, they really ought to have some office which is a strong political office that they could elect. We decided on a strong mayor.

I think, personally, today that that is outmoded and causes us a lot of trouble with the governor here and the mayor across the street. I don't think that we need it any

more since we now elect our own governor. I think the day is long since past when we should convert Honolulu to something like a city manager and have a mayor not as a figurehead, but the person who does the ceremonials and so forth. That was what we were dealing with at that time.

The Charter Commission was still in existence and working very hard in mid-1956. A year. In September of 1956 I am at my law office. By that time I'd gotten very busy in the practice of law. Doing all kinds of law. Quite a broad practice. I got a call in the morning from Jimmy Glover. Jimmy Glover was a very successful contractor; Jimmy Glover was a very colorful man who had been a Territorial Senator for quite some time. Jimmy was then married to a woman who was much younger than he and an extremely wealthy woman, who is now Mrs. Garner Anthony, Jr., of the big publishing empire on the mainland out of Georgia--Cox Communications. Barbie Cox was her maiden name. Jimmy Glover was then married to her. Jimmy called and said, "There's a group of us who would like to see you." I knew it had to have something to do with politics. This was the last day for filing for any office in the 1956 elections.

I said, "I can't, Jimmy. I'm going up to the Supreme Court on a major case that I have to argue." Actually, it was a case involving Frank Fasi. Involving him and the Damon Estate and the land that he leased across from the prison. He said, "When can I get in touch with you?" I said, "I'll be up at the Pacific Club playing volleyball about noon. You can call me up there." He did. I said, "I've got to go back to court, Jimmy." "Well, when can we see you?" I said, "Well, I don't want you to come to the office." He didn't tell me what he wanted but I knew it had to be some political thing. I said, "Where can I meet you about three-thirty?" He said, "Meet me at E. E. Black's office." "Okay."

I finished whatever else I was doing and went over there about three-thirty. There was Johnny Black, Jimmy Glover, Ben Dillingham and I don't know who else. It seemed that Ben Dillingham, who was an incumbent Territorial Senator, had been asked by his father not to run again. There was a vacancy in the Republican ticket and this is the last day to file. We had two Republicans. We had Joe Itagaki, who was a member of the 442nd and was a longtime incumbent, and we had Mary K. Robinson, who was also a longtime incumbent. Now you've got to remember that in 1954, while Neal Blaisdell got elected, the Democrats swept the Legislature. Both houses. That was the beginning of the big Democratic upheaval after all those Republican years.

This is two years later and they want somebody to run in Ben's place as the third Territorial Senator. Now I've been here nine years at that point. The Territorial Senate was an Island-wide race. The whole Island. I said, "I can't do

it." "Why not?" I said, "I've got these small children at home." By then I had five, I guess. "It wouldn't be fair." Johnny Black called Nancy. "We're trying to get Bill to run for Territorial Senate and he says it wouldn't be right for you." She said, "I don't know what he's talking about. He's always said that good people should run for office and I think he should." That undercut that one.

I said, "I still can't do it. I'm just so busy at our law firm now and our firm isn't that big." Johnny Black said, "Look, I'm a big client of your law firm. We'll go up to see Garner right now." By this time it's about five o'clock. We go up to Pacific Heights and Garner's home. We talked to Garner and Garner was what he liked to call himself a "Jeffersonian Democrat." Garner subscribed to the idea but he didn't really know what he was doing. He thought that this was something I might do in my off-hours. Go out after dinner and make a talk to a rally or something like that. He had no idea, but he said, "Go ahead. Do it."

Then we went back to our meeting. I said, "I still don't want to do it. It's too difficult. I'm too busy. I'm just embarked on my legal career and it's really going well. There's just no way that I would want to get involved in elected politics. I'll do my bit." Jimmy Glover said, "What are you doing for dinner?" I said, "I don't have any plans, but I ought to be home." He said, "Let's go to Tony Guerrero's place, the Tropics. Barbie's going to meet us there." So we go to the Tropics and Jimmy starts ordering brandy for us. We had a couple of brandies and a great big steak and they're still working on me. He and Barbie.

Finally, and I guess it got to be about ten o'clock, I said, "Okay, I'll do it." Immediately they called somebody and they got the twenty-five signatures for nomination and we went over to the secretary of Hawaii's office, which is what the lieutenant governor used to be. We filed for nomination. I woke up the next morning and found out that instead of just filling a void in the three-senate ticket, that same night Peppi Cooke had also filed for Territorial Senate. Peppi Cooke, whose father had been president of the Senate for many years; Peppi Cooke of the great Cooke family. And here I am in a contested primary. That was tough.

I'll never forget the very first, the very first rally that I attended. It was at Farrington High School. Big crowd there. Those rallies used to draw a lot. They always had music. They introduced the candidates and each candidate had one and a half or two minutes. They introduced Joe Itigaki. Joe Itigaki, longtime incumbent senator. Joe Itigaki, sergeant in the 442nd. Joe Itigaki, et cetera. Joe got up and he talked. Mary K. Hart Robinson. Married to Mark Robinson whose family goes back to the early days of the Kingdom. On and on and on. Mary spoke. Peppi Cooke. Great

Molokai family. Peppi Cooke's father longtime president of the Senate. Peppi Cooke of the great Cooke family. And Peppi gets up there and he actually had a guy from Molokai who played "The Molokai March." Then Peppi got up and spoke. Then, and I'm sure this is word for word, the guy starts off, "Born in Rochester, New York...." Those were the very first words. (laughter) I sank down in my chair. I couldn't stand it.

Another thing that happened early on. We went to Aala Park for a rally. Still during the primary. The Senators were the last to speak. About eleven-thirty. There was nobody there but dogs and a few kids who were waiting to pick up the chairs and pile them up and the musicians, who went from rally to rally. These gals played at the Republican rallies. When Peppi was called, he did his "Molokai March." When it came to me, I looked back and said, "Does anybody here do "Ke Kali Nei Au"?" They looked at me. Haole boy, what are you talking about? The soprano said, rather reluctantly, "Yeah, I can do it. Key of C?" "That's fine." So she and I sang "Ke Kali Nei Au." That was one of the big breaks that I had because the same troupe followed the Republican rallies around. Everybody would get their two or three minutes and I'd finish my three minutes and this gal would step forward, hit the key of C and we'd sing a song.

Well, a few things happened in that campaign, one much to the consternation of Garner Anthony. I started to campaign and there was only one way: I wasn't in the office. I was campaigning. Another thing was, and they did it because they had their own special intentions, but a group of three or four youngish Japanese veterans who had a friend who was running for office in a haole district came in to see me and said, "We'd like to work in your campaign." Now their motive was to help their friend. Nonetheless, they came in and the third thing was that I realized that nothing was happening in my campaign--this was now going on for three weeks--and a dear friend of mine, Howard Hubbard, said, "There is nothing happening in your campaign."

I got my then campaign manager who was a fellow I knew and the only reason I took him was because he was local and very bright. As a matter of fact, he's a partner of mine in this firm. At any rate, I changed the management. Howard Hubbard started spending a lot of time on this. His wife was down there working in the headquarters we had on Alakea Street, twelve and fourteen hours. Another gal came in--Shada Pfleuger from the Pfleuger family--and she started working fourteen hours a day.

I started going with these Japanese boys and we'd go out to the public housing areas, we went into the Japanese areas, all the places. Pretty soon they became very close with me because we were really working well. We'd go in these places

and I'd go down the middle of the street and they'd go along each side knocking on doors and when somebody came, I'd run over and shake hands and introduce myself. We started to campaign. I mean they'd never seen a campaign like that, particularly from a Republican. Next thing I knew, Gardner Jones, who was then writing for the Advertiser said, "Can I go with you?" I said, "Sure." He spent a whole day with us and took a photographer. I got publicity like you could never buy. There was a full page--pictures and the story--and the theme of it was "The New Republican."

S: Well, the Republicans never really had to do this.

Q: No, and this was the first election after the great defeat. So I'm out there and I'm doing all of this. Finally, along comes the primary. I win and Peppi is out and Mary and Joe and I began campaigning as a team a little bit. There's another month and we're still going just as hard and strong as possible. I lose, but I lose well. I ran way ahead of Joe and Mary and I came very close to knocking off Herbert Lee who was president of the Senate. It was a good/bad situation.

I had resigned from the Charter Commission to do this. After the election, by some little time, Governor King asked me if I would serve on the Statehood Commission. I said that I would. Atherton's nose was out of joint a little bit that I didn't go back with them on the Charter Commission, but this was an opportunity to do something different and very important. We began to organize so that in January when Congress would reconvene, we could go back there and make our pitch for the passage of the statehood bill. All kinds of effort was being made in that regard.

This was the beginning of 1957. We had about three or four people who would talk about something specific and I was the wrap-up--just why we ought to be a state and what this community was like in so many different ways, what we had to offer and so forth. We went back and we went around seeing lots of Senators and Congressmen and we appeared before the committee and we met the people in the Department of Interior, including Tony Lausi who was head of the Office of Territories and his assistant, a young fellow by the name of Ted Stevens, longtime Senator from Alaska now. We did a lot of work.

After we got back home, Governor King decided that since I'd run against them, the Democrats who were overwhelming in the Senate would not confirm my appointment to the Statehood Commission. He said, "I'm not going to submit your name." I said, "I wish you would, Governor, because I really enjoyed serving on the Commission and I don't know that they would really have the meanness not to confirm me." He said, "They're not going to and I don't want to send your name down

and not have it confirmed." So he named somebody else. In fact, I think it was O. P. Soares.

S: Well, wouldn't you think that in a case like that they would rise above politics?

Q: You would think so, but the Governor didn't feel that way; he didn't think that they would. So I went back to the practice of law and somebody from the Governor's office called and said, "Would you be the chairman of the Library Commission?" (laughs) I said, "I don't care. Yes, I'll serve any way I can."

Things were going along until mid-July and there was an American Bar Association meeting in London. Two of my partners were there and I was particularly busy.

In those days I used to work from nine to one-thirty or two on Saturdays and I think it was on a Saturday that I got a call: "Is this Bill Quinn?" "Yes." "Is this the Bill Quinn who's on the Statehood Commission?" "Well, I was." "This is Tony Lausi from the Office of Territories. Secretary Seaton wonders if you can come back to see him." Immediately my mind processes started to work. What the heck does he want to see me about? Sam King, who was appointed in 1952 at the time of Eisenhower's first election, was not Eisenhower's choice. He was Senator Taft's choice. He was a friend of Senator Taft and had served with him.

END OF TAPE 2/SIDE 2

Q: Eisenhower's favorite was probably Randy Crossley, but Senator Taft had urged the appointment of Governor King. Four years later Senator Taft had died and Eisenhower was reelected. There was a lot of talk about a new governor for Hawaii. There had been a lot of people offering themselves; people who had been leaders here, including Randy Crossley, Harold Kay and a few others. Of course, Governor King himself was open for reappointment. In fact, I had signed a newspaper ad urging the reappointment of Governor King.

I got this phone call and I said, "What's it all about?" Tony said, "Well, the Secretary wants to talk to you about number one and number two out there." I said, "Well, Tony, I'm very busy and I've got partners who are away. Call me Monday. Let me think about it." I thought about it over the weekend and talked to a couple of friends like MacNaughton and Hubbard. Hubbard said, "I think they want you to be Governor." I said, "You're out of your mind." He said that. Anyway, they called on Monday and I decided that I'd go, but I had to turn around and get right back. I said, "Okay, I can come. Get me a place to stay. I'll get there at nine o'clock at night." He said, "Fine. Can you have lunch with

us the next day?" I said, "Okay, but I'll be leaving that night."

When I got there, there was a message. Could I come into the Office of the Territories about ten-thirty or eleven o'clock and then later on we'd have lunch with the Secretary. I went in and saw Tony Lausi, whom I'd met before, and I said, "What's this really all about?" He said, "I don't know. Fred Seaton is going to go out to Hawaii in another three weeks." It's July and King has been holding over since January. "He wants that governorship settled before he gets to Hawaii. I think what he's thinking about is getting the President to reappoint Governor King and maybe getting a young face in as the number two person. Maybe in a year or so King would resign and that number two person could move up." About that time we have to go to lunch.

We went to lunch and the Secretary had all these assistant secretaries--about twenty-five people there. It's obvious that somebody had been doing some homework on me because they knew about my experiences during that election and everything else.

During lunch we talked about the 1956 election. One of the things that Governor King had done that had been widely publicized and disputed was that he had vetoed a tax bill. I thought he made a mistake. They asked me how I thought about that and I told them. Then Fred Seaton, who was the Secretary of the Interior, said, "Let's have a cup of coffee in my office." We sat down like we are right here and he starts to talk. As he's talking, it's very clear to me that he's leading up to a job. I said, "I don't mean to interrupt you, Mr. Secretary, but I want you to know that I didn't come to Washington seeking a job and I don't want one."

He looked at me a minute. "Well," he said, "you can say that to me, but I would challenge you to say 'No' to the President of the United States." I said, "Well, I don't know about that, Mr. Secretary, but I want you to know that I don't want and would not take the job of Secretary of Hawaii." He looked at me and said, "What about Governor?" (demonstrates total surprise) I said, "I couldn't say no." He said, "When are you leaving?" "Tonight." He said, "Cancel your plans. Have dinner with me tonight. Tell me who you think ought to be Secretary of Hawaii." Then he said, "Is there anything in your background that would militate against this appointment?" I said, "No." "Well," he said, "you'd better be right or you're dead because I'm going to suggest that the President announce your appointment as Governor before there's an FBI field investigation." Immediately I started thinking about the times I'd been in little barroom brawls or done this or that or the other sort of thing and what was going to happen to me now. (laughs)

S: Because if anything turned up, you would have been dead. I mean dead.

Q: Absolutely. That's what he said. So I cancelled my plans and went back to think about this number two spot. I thought of people. One that came to my mind right away was Alex Castro. A local boy. A leader in the youngish community of successful businessmen. Then I started thinking that appointing me when I hadn't been in the state ten years was bad enough, and it was going to be such a violent change that I'd better get some continuity and stability here. Farrant Turner, who was old enough to be my father, was Secretary of Hawaii, had been a colonel with the 442nd, was a much-admired figure and that's what I decided upon.

We went to dinner, Secretary Seaton, Tony Lausi and I. I told them my choice and they said that made a lot of sense to them and that's what they'd do. Then Seaton said, "We're going to see the President tomorrow." First thing in the morning--nine o'clock or something like that--we go sneaking around back ways so we don't bump into any press. We went into the White House to see President Eisenhower in the oval office. That was the first time I met him. He was just recovering from a minor heart condition. His speech was slightly slurred, which got better as time went on, a beaming, very pleasant, wonderful man. What a thrill for me! We talked and it was interesting because he asked about what for the next two years was the biggest single obstacle to statehood. "I hope you can do something about the fact that the communists have taken over out there." (laughter)

S: What do you say to the President?

Q: What do you say to the President? Well, I said, "I'm going to do my best to serve you, Mr. President," or something like that. Then we left the President's office and Seaton turned to me and said, "Now there's absolutely nothing that you are to say to anybody. This announcement has to come first from the White House." Of course I got back to my hotel and the first thing I did was call Nancy, swore her to secrecy and told her what was happening to me. (laughs) Then I changed my travel plans a little bit and routed my way back through St. Louis so I could see my mother.

I got to St. Louis and Mother had gathered a few of my friends. Of course, I told them what's happening to me. I got on the plane and arrived in San Francisco the next day. It's dark and in those days they'd roll the gangway up. I looked out the window as we were about to debark and there's a group down at the bottom with a couple of cameras. I knew they were newspapermen. I thought, "Oh, that blabbermouth mother of mine." I walked down and didn't look left or right. Somebody said, "How do you feel, Governor?" I turned around and it was a fellow who had formerly been with the

Star-Bulletin here that I'd known over some years. The announcement had come from the White House.

Then you can imagine the turmoil and uproar that we lived with for a while after that. Then it got very difficult because here it was about the middle of July. The next thing you know it's the end of July and no confirmation hearing. Then it's the middle of August and they're talking about when they're going to adjourn and there's no confirmation hearing. I'd been in frequent touch with Seaton and Seaton had hired a former Republican Congressman to lobby for confirmation. Nothing was happening.

In fact, I went back once and this gentleman started taking me around and I could see why nothing was happening. He just had no real sense of things. I'll never forget. He took me in to a Senate hearing. It was a Senate hearing involving the Teamsters and Jimmy Hoffa. Lyndon Johnson was presiding and Bobby Kennedy was the Attorney General. It was a packed room. Every Senator was there, all the lights were on, everybody was very busy and this guy starts to take me around and introduce me to all these people.

I came back and still nothing happened. I called Seaton and he said, "Maybe you'd better come back." I went back and now it's getting toward the end of August. I hadn't been able to practice law. It was just terrible. I went back and began to make my inquiries. I found out that Senator [James E.] Murray of Montana was the chairman of the House Committee on Territorial and Insular Affairs that would be the committee holding the hearing. He was in a battle with Eisenhower because he wanted a man that he would nominate to be assistant secretary for Land and Natural Resources of the Interior Department. Eisenhower wasn't going for that, so Murray said, "There's not going to be any further hearings. We aren't going to have a hearing," and he was out of town and probably not coming back for the rest of the session. He was an elderly Senator with a lot of seniority. His son was the clerk of the committee and running the committee. I saw him and he said that it didn't look like there would be any hearings. The Senator wasn't even coming back.

What was I going to do? I looked at the membership committee and saw that the number two man on the committee was a prominent Democrat, a longtime leader in the Senate, Clinton Anderson of New Mexico. I made an appointment to see him and told him my sad story. I said, "I can't get a hearing. It's just been completely destructive of my professional life." I don't know that we talked much more than that. He just turned around and got the phone, got young Murray on the phone and said, "I want a hearing tomorrow morning at nine o'clock. Don't say it. Just call the hearing." Had a hearing the next morning, they

recommended confirmation and I was confirmed before the end of August. Had the inauguration about the second of September. Seaton was out here. So I became Governor.

S: And the FBI didn't turn up anything? (laughs)

Q: Didn't turn up anything.

S: I didn't think they would. (laughter)

END OF TAPE 3/SIDE 1

January 27, 1987

Q: After I was sworn in and, as I said, while Secretary Seaton was here and his aide Mr. Lausi, we arranged to visit all the Islands, which we did, and I got acquainted with people and introduced this strange and unusual malihini who had become their governor (laughs). I remember when we got over to the Big Island, Doc Hill arranged for us to go out on his boat for a while and we didn't really do any fishing, but we sat around and played a little poker off Hilo, which was sort of fun.

S: Now the people on Oahu knew you pretty well. What about the outer Islands? Had you established much of a reputation out there at that point?

Q: Not really. I hadn't done anything in particular. I had had some law suits on Maui, but no real activity. I'd been bird hunting over on the Big Island, but never done anything such as I'd done here with the Community Chest, the campaigning, the Community Theater and all that sort of thing. And the Republican party. I knew some of the Republicans, of course, because I'd been active in the party since the early fifties or the late forties. I'd been to state conventions. In fact, I think I presided at one of the state conventions, so I knew the leadership of the Republican party.

Then the job really began. It was in September, I guess, and the following February of 1958 we were going to have a budget session of the Legislature. The first thing I did was to start to find out how the territory operated and how they put the budget together. I asked for the budget that had been prepared and I was astonished to get a book about two inches thick that had been prepared or assembled by Governor King, my predecessor. What it was, was from every department. They said, "We want such and such," and that was added. And some other department said, "We want such and such," and that was added. Somebody else said, "We want such and such," and that was added. Then this whole thing was just put together and sent to the Legislature. The Executive division hadn't done a thing about it in terms of ordering

priorities, nor was there any editorial analysis of any of it.

S: Just submitted as was.

Q: Just submitted. Just piled up and sent to the Legislature. I owe what was really a fine education in the operation of the territorial government to Paul Thurston and Richard Takasaki, who were the Budget Director and Deputy Director, and one or two other people who were working with me--Bob Ellis and my staff, I guess.

I went right to the Budget Office and said, "Let's look at all these things--one at a time." We started going through it and we started analyzing it and started seeing, "Well, here's where there are conflicts, and here's where there are excesses," and we worked until nine and ten o'clock at night. Night after night. And we finally started to put something together where I was making order priorities. I was saying, "This comes first, and this comes second, and this we ought to emphasize, and this we can knock out." We put together a good budget document together with a complete narrative of what we were doing and why. They'd never done it.

As I recall, we went through the Christmas holidays and into January still working on this and, finally, we got to the budget session. My recollection is that I had a meeting at Washington Place about a week or within the week before the session and I handed out this budget--something that had never been done. I spoke to the legislators about what we were doing and why. What the priorities were and why. I had them ask me questions and we exchanged quite a bit. Now this was, as you probably remember, a totally Democratic Legislature. That was fruitful.

Another thing that happened early on. I'm going to stop before we get to that legislative session and talk about some other things. It seems to me that it was shortly after I took office that Kona suffered a drought, and a drought of such magnitude that they just ran out of water. We were called upon to ship water from Oahu over to Kona and pump water into their school system and into their hospitals because they just didn't have any water. I remember we used a Navy barge to take water over to Kona.

I called my staff together. I did one thing as soon as I became governor. I had a cabinet and with that cabinet I made it a working unit. We'd meet frequently and just because a guy was head of prisons didn't mean he shouldn't hear about water or something else and everybody's trying to formulate policy, and it worked.

I just couldn't believe that this community of Kona had no water. I called the hydrologists in and said, "Can't we go find some water over there? We've got all this water on Oahu. They're the same sort of geological structure; they must have water, too." They said, "Well, we can certainly search." I said, "All right, I'll take money out of the contingency fund," which I did.

They went over there and they tramped around, and listened around and looked around, and finally they started drilling up Kona mauka. Well, it was "Quinn's folly." They brought in water and it had 600 parts per million salt. It was dubbed "Quinn's folly" by everybody except those hydrologists who said, "Now we know exactly where to go," and they went about a quarter of a mile away and dug another well and they brought in water that was about six parts per million. To this day, Kona has the purest water in the state. To this day.

Now they're beginning to have so much demand for water over there that they're beginning to run short again. I just learned this yesterday, the day of the state of the state message by Governor Waihee, from Virginia Isbell who is the Republican legislator from Kona.

S: Well, they've built up to such a point.

Q: Yes, they've built up enormously and, of course, all those hotels along Kohala have to rely on that same mountain water, too.

One of the major things that faced Hawaii in 1957, of course, was to try to get statehood. That was uppermost in my mind as governor. Despite all these other things, I was encouraging the Statehood Commission and I was trying to keep track of what was happening back there in Washington and being prepared to go back and testify.

We got into our first legislative session and I was called upon by some of the leadership and one or two planners in town because Act 150 of the 1957 Territorial Legislature was the centerpiece of the Democrat legislative program. It was what they were most proud of, the Territorial Planning Act. This was planning at the territorial level. This was the first one and this was a new concept even nation wide.

They thought, "Well, this Republican's going to come in there and he's just not going to implement it." Not veto it, because I couldn't; but just not implement it. Well, it so happened that I got quite enthused about it myself. I not only embraced it, I enhanced it and enlarged it beyond their wildest dreams. (laughs)

But the first thing we had to do was get a planner. One of my first jobs--I remember I went back in about November of 1957 to San Francisco to speak at the Commonwealth Club, which is a well-known club back there. It's a lunch club and they have maybe several hundred people at lunch. On that trip I made arrangements to interview certain people as planners. We had generated their applications. On that trip I think I made arrangements to get one fellow and then at the last minute he said, "No, I've decided to take this other job." A guy by the name of Frank Lombardi came to my attention and we hired Frank. Frank became the head of the Territorial Planning Office and we started to move. And I mean we really did.

This isn't going to come in any necessarily sequential order. In this area, one of the early things we did in the Territorial Planning Office was to try to find a solution to what was a major, major problem. Honolulu was going along; the tourist business was growing at a nice steady pace.

S: Had the jets started coming in by then?

Q: Not yet. The jets came two years later, but things were going very nicely. But on the Neighbor Islands, it was a disaster. Ever since post World War II, sugar and pineapple had become more and more mechanized; more and more people were out of work; more and more people were leaving the Neighbor Islands and they still had twelve and thirteen percent unemployment. Pineapple was having troubles and a couple of pineapple plantations, one on Kauai and one on Maui, were just abandoned. It was a real problem.

As we thought about it, talked about it, I came to the conclusion that, at least on the short term, the solution was to generate some tourist activity on those Neighbor Islands because that was something we knew was there. We only had Kona Inn and, I guess, the Wailuku Hotel. I'm not even sure that Coco Palms was there.

S: Was the Pioneer Inn functioning?

Q: The old Pioneer Inn was there in Lahaina, but that was country.

Under Frank Lombardi's leadership and my direction, we put together a study of other places in the territory where we might develop tourist or resort facilities. We had a blue ribbon study headed by Walter Collins, since dead, but who headed Belt Collins and Associates who were major planners, a very talented man. Frank and his staff were staffing this whole thing. We had economists; we had architects; we had all kinds of people on this destination area committee. After six months or less, they came in with a report in which they had about twenty or twenty-one places

throughout the territory, each of which they rated as a prime destination area; each of which was larger than Waikiki; most of which had no water, roads or anything to get to.

That's when I started a program that I carried through my entire time as the territory and state governor and that was my capital improvement programs which were always state wide. They dealt mainly with roads, water, harbors, airports and parks throughout the state. I put these things in to open up these areas, primarily.

S: On what basis would you apportion funds?

Q: On the basis of what is the most important project. Which is the one that we can do first and which is the one that will lead to the best advantage; not on the basis of so much for each Island or anything like that.

In the territory days, (it's true today, but then it was terrible) every single legislator had his own projects for his own little district. I used to make fun of it; cafeteria, gymnatoria and auditoria. (laughs) Everybody had to have one--at this school, at that place or the other place.

What happened was that even then the governor had item veto power--that which today President Reagan is still crying for. The governor of the territory had it. And I used it. It hasn't been used much since. They've just been holding the money back if they don't want to do something, and then they get a big backlog and then they can pick and choose what they want to do.

In those days I would put my capital improvement program there. They would pass most of it, but then they'd also pass all these cafeteria, gymnatoria, and et cetera. I'd just item veto them all out. I'd take the blame; they were perfectly happy that way and we got these major projects going.

I'll give you just one example, but it's true on each Island. The first example, I guess, was the movement of the state highway at Kaanapali. That highway was right down on the beach. You couldn't put hotels there, but here was the perfect place and Amfac was ready to go with some of that Pioneer Mill land. The state took the responsibility and moved that road back, opening up that whole area for resort development as a destination area.

A year or so later I was at a governors' conference in Puerto Rico. I stayed at the Dorado Beach Hotel which was owned by Laurance Rockefeller. I was very pleased with what I saw there and I knew that he was doing things elsewhere in

the Caribbean and also in the western part of the United States at Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

S: Had they formed Rockresorts at that point?

Q: No, but Laurance Rockefeller had these things. He formed Rockresorts after he was told by the IRS he had to try to make money out of the hotels. That's when he hired Dick Holtzman.

At any rate, I got back here and I invited Laurance Rockefeller to come. I said that I enjoyed my visit to Dorado Beach so much and that we have some wonderful properties here and I thought he might like to look at them and perhaps even have some interest in developing such another lovely resort center as he had in Puerto Rico.

"My Dear Governor," he wrote, "I'm not the slightest interested in the Pacific. However, I am going to be in Alaska on a commission for President Eisenhower and I would be pleased to come down and give you such advice as I might if I can be of any help." That was all I needed. "Dear Mr. Rockefeller, By all means come. We look forward to having you here and benefitting from the advice that you can give us."

I got George Mason who was head of our Economic Development. I have to put a parenthesis right here and right now. Yesterday Governor Waihee said, "I want to separate the Department of Planning and Economic Development into two departments." One of the big mistakes they made, and I told them at the time after I left office, was to put those two together because they frustrate each other. When I had them, Economic Development and Planning each had their programs, and the policy decision was made by the governor.

At any rate, that was what we had then. I got George Mason and Bob Robinson was his assistant, now president of the Chamber of Commerce. I said, "Laurance Rockefeller's here. We've got all these destination areas that have been identified. See what you can do." They put up an itinerary for Mr. Rockefeller when he came, and he saw these places and before he left he had signed up to buy a portion and lease the rest for Mauna Kea Beach Hotel from Richard Smart.

I had a whole Kona plan. Doc Hill was furious because this was Kona on that side and Doc Hill was the big power and he was east Hawaii in Hilo. But we had a plan for the Kaahumanu Highway. With somebody wanting to develop Mauna Kea, we took the highway as you come down the road from Waimea and developed that part of the highway going across so that it opened up that area by Mauna Kea. That thing wasn't finished the rest of the way until just a few years ago. That was the plan. They didn't finish that airport until a

few years ago and that was part of the plan. But it opened up that portion.

I remember Nelson Rockefeller was here when we had a governors' conference. He wanted to see what Laurance had committed to, because nothing had been built yet. I had never really seen it, so he and I took a small plane (we had some work to do on a committee for the conference) and we flew over there. Here was this nice, rounded amphitheater type of little valley, but it took a real imagination to see that this was a destination area because the kiawes grew right down to the water. Nelson and I went out and tramped all over this area. That was one of them. On all the Islands. And it worked.

Gradually more and more tourist areas developed and gradually more and more employment was available. Maui was the first. It came back up and then its population got bigger and then its per capita income and everything worked. It's not the long-term solution, but it's probably still the solution. So that was one thing that we started almost within a month or so after I took office as territorial governor.

S: Let's put it this way; nobody's come up with a better solution yet.

Q: Well, as you mentioned a minute ago, we fortuitously became a state two years after I became territorial governor and the jets started coming and that just gave a real shot in the arm; one, to tourist interest in Hawaii, but also, two, to the development of all these other areas which we had identified.

Just by way of interest, that same tourist destination area study committee was subsequently engaged to do studies all over the Pacific; by Sri Lanka, by Fiji and several others. It was a real landmark study. An outstanding one.

S: By that time had PATA developed in its effort to push the entire Pacific as a destination area?

Q: Yes, PATA was still in its infancy. In fact, after I became territorial governor--I think probably in 1958--I was a guest at the PATA meeting, which was then in San Francisco, and that was the first time I'd ever heard of it. They were really just beginning to go.

S: I thought it was about that time.

Q: It seems to me that it was only a year or two after that in 1959 or 1960 that I was president of PATA while I was governor. All of that was coming together at the same time. That and the budget analysis were two things that I did early

on that I was pleased with the results of. I thought we were on the right track.

The other thing that I was doing. Of course, I went back to Washington three or four times on the statehood matter. We were also preparing for statehood. By that I mean getting consultants to say how would this state government be set up because we already had a state constitution that had been adopted in the early 1950s as an effort to try to persuade Congress to make us a state.

We get into 1958 and in early 1958 I think Jack Burns and I had a talk. Alaska was also being talked about as a future state. It seemed to me that we were on the same track. Sure, whichever one goes first is fine because that will give momentum to the other. Congress wanted to back Alaska because they had Democratic Senators back there who were elected. The system they had--they sent Senators back before they were a state as lobbyists for statehood. They could see the caliber of these people and they were top people. Alaska began to gain some momentum. Oh, this is such a long story.

At any rate, it seems to me that in the spring of 1958 it looked like Alaska was going to move, which elated all of us. I think it was about mid-April or the end of April, Alaska's statehood bill was passed, whereupon we started to put the wheels in motion to get statehood for Hawaii. Strike while the iron is hot type of thing.

I suddenly bumped into this coolness from Jack Burns' office and from the Democratic party here. "No, no, no. Don't do it this year. Next year's better." My thinking was that next year might never come. There are so many civil rights bills around; there are so many southern Senators who think that no matter whether he's Republican or Democrat, if you bring a person in from Hawaii he's going to be in favor of civil rights and they didn't want that.

There started a very, very strongly politicized situation. I have a speech on it that I gave to a social science association which you might want on this very thing. I studied the newspaper articles at that time to find out what happened. It was politics on both sides as we got going.

Fred Seaton called me and said, "I want you to get a group back here." Alaska had already become a state. "But I don't want to have that Statehood Commission of yours. Lorrin Thurston is no good. I want some good solid Republicans." One of the battles was who's going to get credit. The President was for statehood for Hawaii; the administration was for it; I think most of the Congress was,

too, but they didn't want anybody to get credit but themselves--the Democrats.

I said to myself, "How can I put together people other than the Statehood Commission and send them back there for statehood, particularly when I know it's politically motivated?" Then I hit the pot with the proper solution, I thought. I'll get former delegate to Congress, Betty Farrington; former Governor, Samuel Wilder King; and myself, and we'll be a vanguard to go back there espousing the cause of statehood now, and then we can follow that up with the whole Statehood Commission. That would have some color of authenticity and could be effective since both Sam and Betty had served in Congress and had a lot of friends on the floor. I was able to accommodate the problem in that way.

When that first delegation left, all hell broke loose. Bill Richardson was then chairman of the Democratic party. "The Governor's just trying to make this whole thing a political animal." Lots of charges and countercharges. But when we got back there, there was very effective work being done. A few days later the whole Statehood Commission came and we'd all meet together. We'd assign people to go see various members of Congress.

I went to see Leo O'Brien who was chairman of the House Committee. I had had a slight connection with him because I had been born in Rochester, New York, although I left when I was two years old, and he was from Rochester. (laughs) We had met before and exchanged that little thing. I had testified before his committee on statehood.

I went in to see him and he said, "I'll tell you. Your delegate is not encouraging the passage of the statehood bill. I happen to think that you've got to pursue it and pursue it right now and you'll have my firm and full support. But you've got to do something about it because if Jack Burns isn't in there really pushing for it right now, it's going to be very hard to get."

I started to think, "What can I do about this?" and the key figure in my mind was the majority leader Lyndon Johnson who was very close to Jack Burns. Jack worked in his office after we became a state and I defeated him. Anyway, they were close and there had been some family connection between Mrs. Burns' family from Texas and the Senator.

I said, "I've got to really see the majority leader." By this time, with the delegation back there, there was still maybe seven or eight weeks left in the regular session. It must have been about the middle of June. I thought about my old friend Jim Rowe. Jim was a fellow that I'd known in the Navy. We'd known and liked each other but Jim had also been a fellow who before the war had been very close to

Franklin Delano Roosevelt and had been working in the White House as one of those bright young men that Franklin Roosevelt had.

When he came into the Navy, he and I were in the same training program, which was Air Combat Intelligence. I had already been in the Navy for a year and a half and he had just come in. He was about eight or ten years older than I. Anyway, we were back in Rhode Island and it's cold and he's got this great big bridge coat. I said, "Where in the world did you get that already, Jim?" He said, "Well, this is my friend Lyndon Johnson's. Lyndon was in the Navy for a while, but he left the Navy to go back to Congress, so he gave me his bridge coat."

I remembered that and I knew that after the war Jim was very successful as a lobbyist and a practitioner in Washington. I knew that he was still close to Lyndon Johnson. I called Jim and we had a nice visit. I said, "Jim, I'd like to see the majority leader. I'd like to see if I can't urge him to lend his support to statehood this year. We think there are many good reasons for it. We think the majority of Congress favor it, and if it doesn't come this year, it may not come. That's been our past experience." "Well," he said, "I think I can arrange that."

He called back and said, "You've got an appointment at six-thirty over at the majority leader's office." I went over at six-thirty. The majority leader was still on the floor and the Senate was busy. The fellow who was under such a cloud (subsequently came under a cloud and was convicted) was the administrative assistant. He came out and said, "The majority leader's on the floor. If you'll just wait, he'll be along sooner or later."

I guess I waited almost two hours. The majority leader came in and I went into his office with him. "Well," he said, "I'm glad to meet you, Governor. Jim Rowe says that even though you're a Republican you're not such a bad guy." I said, "Well, Senator, I come seeking your support and your assistance for statehood for Hawaii this year." "Well," he said, "you know we've got a very busy session and we haven't got that much time left. Furthermore, (he pointed) you see that red phone over there. That's the phone that I talk to your president on, and your president wants to have a mutual assistance pact and I'm trying to work to get his mutual assistance pact for him and I haven't got time to put all these other things into our agenda. You're not on the agenda." Period.

Well, there were editorials all over the country at this point. Statehood for Hawaii, statehood for Hawaii. The lead editorial in that week's issue of Life magazine, in the center was "Wela ka hao," strike while the iron is hot. Now

is the time to grant statehood for Hawaii. I had this under my arm. He said, "You aren't on the agenda." I said, "Senator, there's so much support throughout the country for this. We've been waiting so long and if we don't get it this year," and I started on that. "To show you the support, Senator," I said, "look at this," and I got that editorial. He got mad and I mean he got mad.

We were sitting like this (on opposite sides of an office desk) except I was sort of on a corner. He got so mad that his face was about this far (twelve inches) from mine and his face got red and the veins on his neck stood out. He said, in a loud voice, "Listen to me, young man. I'm the majority leader in the Senate and things will move in the Senate when I say they're going to move, not when anybody else, not you, not your president, not anybody else, only me. Do you understand that?" Just like that. I couldn't believe it.

I said, "I'm sorry, Senator, I appreciate your giving me a chance to visit you," and I got to the door and turned and said, "Maybe, Senator, you could make some positive statement that you think that statehood for Hawaii would be on the agenda in the next session or something like that?" He said, "I'll say whatever I feel like saying." And out I went. And we went home. King and Farrington and the whole delegation went home. There was certainly no chance then. That was the end of it for 1958.

Of course when we got home, we immediately started working as to what we could do and how we could support our case for 1959. Everybody was really so discouraged and downhearted because we had to start afresh, we thought, in 1959 and there could be all this other opposition that would start to appear.

S: In the meantime, did you determine why Jack Burns was acting so cool about the whole thing?

Q: First of all, I think, because Johnson for some reason didn't want it. I have a letter, which is part of that speech that I made, that Jack Burns wrote to Oren Long in 1958 and Jack was, I guess, sort of torn in his own feelings a little bit. He felt that maybe we didn't deserve statehood exactly.

He thought that the people who were speaking up for statehood publicly were the same people who had privately gone back to the cloakrooms and said, "We don't want it." Big business leaders and others said, "Don't give us statehood," but publicly said, "Yes, we're for statehood." He said, "These people are going to have to come around and state publicly and honestly what they believe." I guess he was talking mainly about the Japanese and others when he

said, "The young don't need statehood now. I think the best thing would be (and this is in this letter) if we just elected our own governor, and stayed as a territory for a while."

But on the other hand he also said, "I'm not doing any campaigning for statehood. Maybe that works better because when somebody collars me, I can tell them and that may be more effective." He went around, but it was he himself--and I think that primarily there was some political deal and as he described it in his letter, "If we pass a statehood bill, that President whom we don't trust, is liable to veto an Alaskan bill and take Hawaii. We want to make sure that Alaska's in." Well, in those last weeks that I had been back there the Alaska bill had already been passed and signed, so that didn't really hold water. There was some political reason. He was a good loyal Democrat, Jack was, and I'm sure he felt and maybe knew that it was certain to come the following year. For whatever reasons, he wanted to play his chips so that he kept Lyndon Johnson on his side, and Sam Rayburn, so that he had a good relationship with them. It was interesting, anyhow.

We came back and we started preparing plans to put an early battle on when the new session came in 1959. I think we began to get more and more hopeful. The signs began to look like, "Well, they really can't keep us out."

S: Now that they've got Alaska, they have to take us.

Q: If Alaska was fit to be a state, certainly we were. Alaska was not self-sufficient; they did not have the oil in those days. That was a real gamble. But we were a sophisticated territory and had even been a monarchy at one time.

At any rate we started to work on it. I think things were going pretty well. We had the Statehood Commission back there and they were there for quite some time. I was preparing, I guess, for the '59 session. In fact, we were in it starting in January. We also had consultants as to how the state government should be organized to fit within twenty major departments, which is what the constitution required. In the territorial days we had over a hundred boards, commissions and agencies, with the effort being made to stay independent from the federally-appointed governor. You had all these things. It was quite a job.

We also had to make the decision as to which of these various functions should be put together in this smaller number of departments. This was a major study that was going on at the time. We also formed a committee with some legislators to look at this so we'd have some advance work done with the Legislature. Congress started to hold some

hearings on statehood. I got a call one day from George Abbott, who was general counsel of the Interior Department. He said, "Governor, can you come back?" I said, "When?" He said, "Right now. I'd like to see you here tonight, if possible."

I hopped a plane. I got a plane at twelve o'clock or something and I got all the way back and I got to Washington and it was about nine o'clock at night. George Abbott was there to meet me and he said, "We'll pick up your bags later. Let's go." We got in the car and rushed over to the old Senate office building. There's a Supreme Court chambers in there. We rushed right there.

Well, there was nothing there except a lot of microphones and some newspeople and all these wires going around. I said, "What's going on?" Just about that time all this hubbub comes down the hall. Here's the Senate--Scoop Jackson and several other leaders, Jack Burns, the Democratic national committeewoman, all come down the hall. They were going to have this great big celebration of statehood for Hawaii passed by the Senate; hadn't been passed by the House yet. Of course, all a Democratic effort.

Can you imagine their consternation when they walk into this room and here I am? There was picture taking all over the place and I've got this picture. The Democratic national committeewoman, Delores Martin, a very lovely lady, member of a family with several very lovely sisters, part-Hawaiian, part-Portuguese...

END OF TAPE 4/SIDE 1

Q: She saw me, her eyes lit up, she came running over, threw her arms out, gave me this big hug and all the cameras flashed and that was the picture that was used all over the country with the Republican in there and the Democrat. (laughs) I guess the effort to get me back there satisfied Seaton's idea that we don't want to make this entirely a Democratic show.

Then I learned what had happened. They started to have their floor discussion on this bill in the Senate that morning or the day before. There were several people that wanted to make long talks against statehood and they were prepared for the record, some of the leaders of the South particularly.

I understand from an article that was published shortly thereafter, I think also in Life magazine, Lyndon Johnson, as soon as one of these guys would stand up, would go over and whisper something to him and he'd sit back down. The bill passed just like that and they came out for this celebration. What the magazine said that Lyndon was saying was, "That

young son of a bitch from Hawaii's on his way here, and we want to get this through before he ever gets here, so we'll put it in the record, but you don't have to say it." (laughter) It's a true story.

Then I stayed. The bill subsequently passed the House. I had a messenger. I was on the phone speaking to Ed Johnston who was the territorial secretary at that time and acting governor since I was in Washington. As soon as we got the majority, the messenger came to me and I passed the word to Ed and then all pandemonium broke loose here. We had in the months of February and March (I guess that was also passed in April)--the Legislature was in session, but we'd had some legislative and other leaders--we'd put together a committee for the coming of statehood. We actually had a Celebration Commission and we had a meeting, I think, at McKinley. We had hundreds there. How are we going to do this? What are we going to do and when are we going to do it?

When Ed got the message, schools let out, bells rang, and they had a big bonfire set up at Sand Island. During the last month or so, people from every state had sent wood to be on the bonfire. That was lit that night and they had a huge celebration that went on all that day and night.

I got back and the Legislature was still in session. These things go on for so long. I had negotiated with General I. D. White to have about two-thirds of Fort DeRussy turned over to the state. We had reached an agreement and that agreement I had sent to have approved by the Legislature, and then it was going to be approved by Congress and then it would be implemented. A fellow by the name of Frank Fasi was head of the Senatorial Land Committee in the Territorial Senate in the year 1959. He decided that he would run for the United States Senate in the first statehood election. He refused to pass that approval of the DeRussy transaction out of the Senate Land Committee saying, "Don't settle for a mess of pottage. Send me back to Washington and I'll get it all." (laughs) Now they're still fighting--twenty-five or thirty years later.

So that session adjourned. We had had a reorganization bill all developed at that point and we had had legislators from both parties and both Houses that were familiar with it. Very shortly after the inauguration, I called a special session. The special session was to deal with the reorganization bill primarily, and such other things as the state flower were thrown in there, but it was mainly statehood issues. Of course, this was a massive bill and made great changes. I mean, some changes were really quite controversial.

We had to put some departments together--there were so many of them--into twenty or less. One of the things that the consultants urged upon us was that the Department of Social Services and the Department of Institutions, the prisons, be joined in a single department. I went along with that and at the time it was a good idea, but I wholeheartedly subscribe to what the Governor now says; that the institutions have gotten into such a bad situation and they're so large these days that it really needs direct positive leadership for that function. He's going to separate them again and I'm in wholehearted agreement with that.

At any rate, we had this special session and progress was being made. The bill with some modifications--but by and large, our bill--was being accepted. We got close to the end and I got a visit from the man who was the president of Chevron in California. Ted Peterson, I think his name was. He made an appointment and came to see me in the office. He said, "Governor, I know this is late, but Vice President Nixon was supposed to come to our Business Council meeting," which is a meeting of some of the major business executives of the country. It's been in existence for a long time and still meets and it has a staff. They study the economy and they make certain statements and they hear from the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State and the Treasury and so forth.

He said that the vice president was going to address them the next Saturday night and he had to cancel. He said, "I've been asked by our executive committee to ask you if you would address our Business Council." I said, "I've got this first special session here and I don't see how. I would like to because I'd like to talk to these people about (and I used the term and it was the title of the speech) "Sun-Tanned and Gilt-Edged." I mean I was pushing economic development. I want these people to come over here now and invest. I thought this was a golden opportunity if I could do it.

I talked to Elmer Cravalho who was speaker of the House and I talked to Doc Hill who was president of the Senate, because we did carry a majority of Republicans in the Senate when I got elected, fourteen to eleven. A small majority. They both said, "By all means go. This is just being wrapped up now. No problems." I said, "All right."

So I went and I addressed this group. I was very happy to have the opportunity. I thought I could do good for my state in getting this contact with people as influential as these in the business world.

S: Where did this meeting take place?

Q: That was at Pebble Beach, California. I came to my room after I'd finished the talk and had a little after dinner gathering. Here were three or four urgent telephone messages; one or two from newspapers; one from Bob Ellis, my administrative assistant; one from Doc Hill. I find out that there were just a few little things to be done in the closing moments of the Legislature and Randy Crossley, Republican Randy Crossley, who thought he should be governor and who had gotten angry with Bob Ellis, my administrative assistant, for something that had been going on in connection with these negotiations in the finalizing of this bill, got Kinney, another Republican friend of his who owed him something, and they went to the other side and the bill did not pass. They adjourned without passing the bill; they didn't vote it down, but Randy was the one who kept it from being passed before adjournment.

I flew right back and I got the leadership together and we finally agreed that we would just have a five-day session to pass the bill. There was only one little thing that there had been any dispute about. We settled that in conference and then they just met for about ten minutes a day for five days at considerable cost, but they passed that bill for the organization of the state government.

That was done. Then we had a heavy volcano at Kapoho. I remember the first I heard was in the afternoon of a day that there was this large triangular segment of land, hundreds of acres, that just dropped, like four feet in some places. I thought, "Boy, there's a disaster." I got Civil Defense and said to get everybody out of that area right now. I flew over, thinking that something was going to happen.

I went up to the volcanologist and said, "Does this mean we're going to have an explosive volcano?" "No, Governor, it's just that there's been some movement of lava, but we think it's all over. We can understand that." That had a special scientific name. I thought that I'd go back down to Hilo and have dinner and then fly home.

I was sitting in a restaurant there and somebody came in and said that it just erupted. I went back up the volcano and here was this eruption. It was a fascinating thing. I stood right there and watched it. It was fountaining over maybe a mile and a half in a line, maybe four, five or six feet. Even as you watched it some of those holes would seal and as they sealed the others would get higher. The next day it was up to seventeen hundred feet or something like that.

I think that that was the time that we had to call a special session because there were about 200 homes that were wiped out. I'm not sure about that. I know that we had

another special session and I know that that took place right about that time.

Then I had the real problem. We're now a state; I have to make about 550 appointments. All of them! All the judges, all the department heads, deputy department heads, all the commission members, everybody else, starting right from scratch. If you don't think that was ever a problem. I decided, right off the bat, that the first thing I was going to do was appoint the Supreme Court. I decided, being as naive as I was, that I was going to try to set an example for those to come. I was going to try to get as objective and as bipartisan a court as I could.

I got some very fine people. I had two people who turned me down, but I ended up with Cable Wirtz, who had been an experienced Circuit judge from Maui, a Democrat; Rhoda Lewis, a really nonpartisan woman lawyer, outstanding; Charlie Cassidy, a Republican and a leader of the Bar; Wilfred Tsukiyama, longtime--not only lawyer--but longtime Senator in the Territorial Senate and one who had run and lost for United States Senate; and one other of Japanese ancestry who's still around, Masaji Marumoto. It was a marvelous group; it had a high level of integrity and legal capability.

I'm about to send those names down and I get a call from Vincent Esposito. He said, "A small group of us Democratic Senators would like to come see you, Governor." I said, "All right." They came up and they said, "You're about to get into your appointments. We want to talk to you about all the appointments that we have the power to advise and consent on, particularly the judges. We are eleven twenty-fifths of the first state Senate and we believe ..." Let me tell you who they were; Vince Esposito; Tom Gill; Nelson Doi, who was lieutenant governor under Burns. At any rate, powerful people. They said, "We are entitled to name eleven twenty-fifths. That's what the constitution means, Governor, that the Senate advise and consent, the majority names a majority, the minority names a minority."

I said, "Vince, you must be out of your mind. There's no way I can do that. I'm going to send you good names and you can act as you see fit. I think you owe it to the public to judge these people on their merits and if they're good, you should confirm them." Well, they caucused for a minute and said, "Well, then here's fair warning to you, Governor. We, all eleven of us, are going to vote against all of your appointments." And they did.

The next conversation was with the Republicans. The Republicans said, "Governor, what we'd like you to do is name all your judges. Send them all down at once; both the Circuit judges and Supreme Court judges, because we might

want to...." (indicates some switching). I said, "No, I'm going to send you the Supreme Court. After you act on the Supreme Court, then I will send the Circuit judges," and there were quite a large number of those. Well, they didn't like that much, but they finally agreed.

I sent down these five and the vote was fourteen to eleven on all five judges. Then we got into some battles on the Circuit judges. I got into a battle with my lieutenant governor.

S: Who was?

Q: James Kealoha. Jimmy I had urged to run with me. Jimmy was the mayor of the Big Island and it looked to me like that was a good balance as far as Neighbor Island and Oahu and a good balance because it wasn't two haoles. He was a very popular Hawaiian politician and had been around for a long time. It seemed to me that that was a good blend.

At that time you voted for the governor and the lieutenant governor separately. You didn't cast one vote. Jimmy was well supported by the ILWU who was opposed to me and favoring Jack Burns. As it turned out, Jimmy got more votes overall than I did in the general election for statehood. In one of our first meetings Jimmy thought that we ought to split the appointments fifty-fifty. I had to straighten him out and say, "I have the full responsibility and I cannot delegate the authority to make these appointments."

Then we had a real donnybrook. He had made a commitment to one judge who had been a territorial judge here on Oahu and who was a Big Island fellow and a very close friend of Jimmy's. I had made a commitment to the Bar Association which was then headed by Bert Kobayashi who was a classmate of mine at Harvard Law School. He was subsequently Jack Burns' attorney general and then appointee on the Supreme Court. I had made a commitment to the Bar Association that I would submit all names to them and if they found that anybody was not qualified and would tell me that they didn't think they were qualified, I wouldn't appoint them. Of course, they were overjoyed with my Supreme Court and now we were on the Circuit level.

Jimmy said, "I've made this commitment. I've got to be able to carry out that commitment." I said, "Well, let me check." The Bar Association said, "Nothing doing. This guy's been handing out masterships and it's been a crooked deal." I talked to Bert and to Bill Stevenson and two or three members of the committee. I said, "I'm in a real bind. We're just starting this new government. I've got a lieutenant governor here, the first time we've ever had one, and I've got to try to make things work with him. He's made

this commitment. Suppose I were to appoint this fellow a judge, but put him on another Island where he couldn't do as much damage as he can do where all this litigation is." They agreed and we made the appointment. I hate to tell you, but the judge's name was Felix.

We got over that hump, but it was only the beginning. Just about that same time there was a big party being given for Jimmy, welcoming him here to Oahu. I couldn't go and Jimmy took that as a personal affront. Things were just bad from the day it started. He thought, "I got more votes; I'm going to run the next time," and it just started off that way and it was never any better. He was just sitting over there trying to undercut and top me all the time. More about that later.

I started making my cabinet appointments and one of the fellows I chose was Larry Nakatsuka who was a very experienced newspaperman and who had done a great deal of labor reporting. I decided that he would be a good man to be the Commissioner of Labor because he was very knowledgeable and very fair and a liberal thinker. I sent that name down and, of course, eleven were voting against. Somebody in the ILWU got to one of the Senators. I think it was the man from Maui, where his constituency was ILWU and very strong ILWU. We don't want this guy. He was able to get one more Republican to join him and Larry's name was defeated thirteen to twelve, with the eleven Democrats and these two Republicans.

I sent Bob Ellis' name down to be Commissioner of Land and Natural Resources. Bob was a sterling public servant and had been my administrative assistant and had done an outstanding job. I felt that this was a real sensitive area, the land, and I had a whole program to make use of some of our state lands for public purposes, for social purposes with Hawaiians and others. Bob's name got down there and Randy Crossley had gotten angry with Bob in connection with that reorganization session of the Legislature. Randy got Bernard Kinney and they voted against Bob, so that was two plus eleven, thirteen to twelve Bob was defeated. This was what was happening.

I have to say that it went on like that for a while, and the man that first broke that pattern, who said, "I just can't do this anymore; I'm not serving the public," was George Ariyoshi.

S: Who was one of the eleven.

Q: Who was one of the eleven. He said, "I'm not going to do this anymore." So that was the way we started. Then, of course, (and I was reminded of this yesterday) as I said, we had to put the Department of Social Services and the

Department of Institutions together. We had so many of these and you had to combine some things. The experts said that's a good one and I agreed.

We put them together and Joe Harper, who had been warden of the prisons, was bitter and angry. I put him under Mary Noonan who was head of the Department of Social Services and who had been in the territorial government for quite a while. Joe, I think, quit shortly thereafter.

As we went along for a while, maybe six months, I began to hear all these rumblings that things are not very good at the Department of Social Services. A fellow was recommended to me who was a visiting professor up at the University. He was an economist and also an organizational person who had made studies of a couple of Naval institutions where this sort of thing had been reported and who could do a very good job. I met him, Dr. Ed Shaw, talked to him and said, "I'd like you to just study and find out what's wrong. Why is there so much bad morale and discontent there in this Department of Social Services?"

After a while, he came back with his complete study and the final recommendation was to fire Mary Noonan. Well, Mary was probably the strongest Republican in my administration. Mary was one that went way back in the organization of the Republican party. She had been the executive of the Republican party for years. I think when I moved here she was head of it, and that first speech that I made when I became a Republican was at her place in Kewalo.

He said, "You've got to fire her. That's where it's coming from." Well, I spent two or three days with Mary Noonan. Tears, threats, everything else. The press hovering around outside. What's going on? I finally persuaded her. I said, "I can't do anything else. I prefer that you resign, but I have to make the change. I'm convinced that this fellow knew what he was doing and I can't just ignore it." So she did, but, boy, it was bad. And, of course, with that, another segment of my Republican support fell off.

END OF TAPE 4/SIDE 2

February 23, 1987

Q: I just made the mistake of going through a volume of the scrapbooks during this period, solely of newspaper stories. In our last talk I described some of the things that happened right after statehood, special sessions and that sort of thing and the volcano and everything, but when I started to go through those newspaper clippings and realized what went on in those first six months, I was exhausted just reading it. Also, I was a whipped boy by the time it was over, just reading it, because in those early days it didn't

seem that I could get any help from anybody. Here I had for the first time since '56 because I was elected, I had brought a majority of Republican Senators in, fourteen to eleven. But they were the enemy!

I told you about the failure to confirm Bob Ellis and Larry Nakatsuka, but what I didn't recall was that right after the first of the year 1960 we had a special session of the Senate only for a period of days to start acting on confirmation of appointees. I told you about the judges and that all worked, but when we got into the cabinet people, there was day after day after day when that Senate was meeting and not a single thing was done. And they had 500 appointments.

There was all this newspaper talk about, "Well, it looks like Ellis isn't going to make it. It looks like Nakatsuka's not going to make it." It went day after day after day. When I was reading it, I just couldn't believe it. We finally got to a point that a special reorganization session, the legislative session, was going to start to take place and here this special session of the Senate was going on, so there were even opinions sought from the attorney general, "Could you go with the special session and still start the regular session?"

All the newspaper columns were saying: What's the matter with the Governor? Why can't he get his Republicans to support him? Then you'd get these nasty comments in the paper from Randy Crossley. It was just awful and right while that was going on came this Kapoho volcano that I told you about. Right during the middle of that time.

S: Why was this only the Senate?

Q: Because only the Senate acts to confirm.

I'd forgotten that, but this was a special session of the Senate only. Unusual. When I read that I said, "I've never heard of this before or since." But that was it because we had all of these things and it was such a massive job. But they were hung up on these two.

On Larry Nakatsuka, the ILWU was in there and it was so strong. In those days it was a real power. They didn't like Larry because a decade before, Larry, as a newspaper reporter, had written some stories about the shipping strike in '49, the big shipping strike, and they didn't like the way he wrote that and they carried that grudge to defeat him ten years later.

In the Neighbor Islands, they were so strong, that people like Kinney and Calmes, Republican Senators, were more beholden to them than they were interested in trying to build

a party. The Republican party, right there in those days of 1959 and 1960, lost the opportunity to come back after that great defeat of '54 and again '56 and re-establish itself as at least an equal party, able to do battle. They lost it because these guys--well, I'm not going to only blame them--but as far as their blame is concerned, they were some of the people who had been in the Legislature prior to 1954. These people, and I include Heb Porteus in this group as one of the leaders and Doc Hill, were interested in having their own way. They were not interested in having a young punk in there for the first time they'd ever had an elected governor.

They were used to circumventing the governor, and they were used to doing their own way in their own little empires and they didn't give us any chance at all. First of all, all they had to do was say, "Maybe we don't like these fellows particularly," and they did. They had a great respect for both Larry and Bob. But each one had a couple of enemies. That's all. As I say, the Democrats were solidly against everything, which was a terrible public disservice when you think about it.

Can you imagine people in the Congress of the United States saying, "This is a Republican appointee so all the Democrats are going to vote against him?" It's a terrible thing that they did when you reflect on it, and it was terrible for a new state to try to get started under those circumstances.

I sent down to the first state Legislature a package of about twenty bills and they were really good, solid legislative programs. They dealt in part with opening up some land, using the land as a social instrument, without allowing speculation in it. They dealt with mental health, which is still such a terrible thing, but we were the leader at one point.

S: That many years ago not too many people were talking about mental health.

Q: That's right, and we were a leader in those days. I'll get back to that.

Anyhow, I had this legislative program, Bills 1 through 20. I had a Republican majority in the Senate. I sent these bills down. I had talked to them about them, I had their concurrence, I drafted it early enough that I sent this whole legislative program to a Republican convention and it went through their legislative committee. Everybody said, "Yes, this is what we want to do," and it was a forward-looking, marvelous program. Some of it still isn't law.

It got before that Senate and after they were in session for two or three weeks, my Bill Number 1 was introduced as maybe Bill 45, and then another few days my Bill Number 6 was introduced as Bill 80. It lost its complete identity, its shape as a program and failed. There was nothing! The Republicans could claim nothing as a result of it. Absolutely nothing!

S: Were any of the twenty bills passed?

Q: I think maybe one or two of them were, but it wasn't a program. They couldn't say, "We stand behind this and we're Republicans and we're going to show that we are not that old party that kicked people off the hill back in the old days." They just didn't do it.

I battled with them on every single appointment. They'd come in and say, "Well, we've got our guy and we want him." These were Republicans! I say that I also am to blame. I think and I read it and hear it periodically and I heard it just the other day in reference to the campaign of [Harold] Washington to be re-elected mayor of Chicago, "The first job of an elected official is to get himself re-elected." In my misplaced idealism I totally forgot that. Totally forgot that. I did not take any steps in those early days to shore up my position to make my people those people who would have power and authority. I tried to get the best people whether they were mine or not. And it was a mistake.

There's one dispute and it reflects through a period of weeks. Again, on these appointments. It precedes this actual special session of the Senate. But when I first named Larry Nakatsuka, the AFL-CIO was up in arms because they had supported me in the state election, the first state election. They and I had a little different recollection, but they thought that they would have the right to name the Secretary of Labor.

I did not recall it that way, and I wanted to name somebody that I knew was sympathetic to the cause of organized labor, but I felt that I would not be doing a proper job for all of the people, even those who were my political enemies like the ILWU, if I were to select somebody named by one faction of labor. And I didn't and they got mad and they did not support me again. It would have been so simple for me to sit down with them and at least get somebody that they and I both agreed upon. I would have kept their support, I think.

S: And the ILWU might have even approved.

Q: Possibly. But I didn't, and that was a terrible thing. I should have, maybe above all else, tried to keep the labor at least split and try to keep their support for Republicans

and made such sacrifices of my "ideals" as would be necessary to do that.

S: I think it's known as political expediency.

Q: Yes, yes, and I didn't exercise it. We had another thing that I got considerable editorial support and praise for that happened right at this same time, but also made a lot of enemies that don't forget. (laughs) There was a bill introduced in the Senate, I think, and by a Republican that if anybody is named by appointment or election to any public office, that their background may be investigated only for eight years and nothing prior to that could be investigated and was protected by a legislated right of privacy. It was called the Frank Silva bill, because it related to a fellow on Kauai who was going to be appointed to a Water Board or something and he had been an acknowledged communist.

These were still days not too long after we'd had our trials here, the whole story of the ILWU and the communists and various other things. I was not and never had been in agreement with the persecution of these people, and I think at some point it was persecution. It certainly was at the Washington level. But neither did I think that any door should be closed to a legitimate inquiry as to a person's fitness to hold any particular office. So I let it be known that if they passed that bill, I'd veto it. Mind you, this is still in the opening days.

Well, in due time they passed it and I vetoed it, and made a lot of good, cordial enemies one more time. But they did not override the veto. There were weeks of back and forth on that one, too. Young Dan Tuttle in those days was writing. Even then. At first he was writing when my nominees weren't approved, "Why doesn't the Governor show some leadership here?" (laughs) Then later on he said, "Well, the Governor probably did right in his veto but he gave the wrong reasons." (laughs) Oh gosh, what a time.

Then it was right about that time. We had that special Senate session, then we had the legislative session to pass the reorganization bill, then I told you that that ended poorly. The reorganization session may have been right after the election and before the end of the year. Then we start the appointment session. Then we had the regular session and we finally got that appointment session of the Senate over just twenty-four hours before the regular session started. That's the way it happened. Right at that point we were entering our fourth session of the Legislature in two hundred days. Something like that because we had the reorganization, the special reorganization, the special session of the Senate, then we had the regular session coming up.

In that regular session I had, along with the legislative program, a capital improvements program which was separate. I guess the chief point of that first capital improvements program was a Kona improvement, going to implement that plan for developing tourism on the Neighbor Islands and here was a golden opportunity because Kona really looked like it was going to be next.

As it turned out, Kaanapali got going for good reasons and that was Kaanapali had the public improvements, the water and so forth and as it turned out, Kona didn't because the Legislature, including the Republicans and particularly the Republicans in the Senate, did not want to allow a program to go where one district would get so much of the capital improvement money. So they broke it all up. "No, we haven't got plans sufficient for that airport yet. No, it may not be that we want the road here. We want it there. No, you don't want to restore that heiau because somebody might restore it privately with their own money."

It just went on and on and on with the end result that that Kona plan was just shelved and they broke up that money into bits and pieces and threw it into every part of the state. It was a tragic thing. Well, when I got that bill from the Legislature, I did something for the first time, but I did it many times subsequently. I went through it with a pencil. I couldn't get the money back for Kona, but they had all these things; cafeteria, auditoria, and swimming pools. I just went through and lined it all out. I said, "We can't afford to spend money for that."

We also were doing something to try to get and keep the budgetary affairs and debt in order. We had a pretty high debt, but we were prosperous. Even though the Neighbor Islands were not, the state as a whole was prosperous. Honolulu was jumping. We had a surplus. There was a lot of pressure on me to just restore, give it back, tax relief, temporary tax relief. Let the people have the money. But I used it for capital improvements instead of borrowing money. I got a lot of flack on that, of course.

But the chief disappointment, and it was a disappointment that lasted with me throughout the entire term, was I never was able completely to get the Legislature, and the Republicans particularly I would say, to accept the high priorities, to say, "If we want to have a Kaanapali, we've got to get that road in. We've got to move it," because the highway at Kaanapali used to be right down on the water and you could never have a hotel there.

We did get some of those things. We got that and we got the road opening up Mauna Kea before I left office, but to take a whole plan like a Kona plan and really put your chips

down, to permit it to lapse instead of being done...it ended up being done over a quarter of a century.

S: Piecemeal.

Q: Piecemeal. The very thing that I wanted to do, it's all been done now, but it took a long, long time. I think it was during that session in 1960 that we had the tidal wave at Hilo. I'd forgotten how much of an aftermath that caused. It is a chapter in and of itself, let me tell you.

The Legislature was in session. President Sukarno of Indonesia came to visit Hawaii as he had done several times. What an interesting man. Father of his country and today regarded as that even though he was kicked out as being too friendly to the communist nations. Father of education in Indonesia. Strange man. Colorful. He came through here one time and he was greeted by a Pan American stewardess who put a lei around his neck and gave him a kiss on the cheek. It was pictured and, of course, this is a violation of every Muslim tradition known. He was able not only to get away with it, but he immediately decided he was going to have this woman. And he pursued her.

He came through one more time not too long afterwards on a Sunday and I was with him. He said, "Is there a jewelry store open?" I said, "No, but I'm sure we can arrange it." I called John Felix and John Felix called somebody and somebody opened up a jewelry store and President Sukarno went in and bought a very, very expensive gold and diamond wristwatch and we proceeded to drive out to Aina Haina and call on this girl. Her parents were there and in time President Sukarno really sought her to be a wife. I think her parents really wanted her to do it but she was going to be wife number four.

S: Was this a haole girl?

Q: Yes, blonde. She finally said no. But that, anyhow, is a little background on President Sukarno, who was just a colorful guy in his own right. I've got to tell you another one. He came one time on still another trip. He was coming in and I had a brunch arranged. He was coming right from the airport. We were just about to sit down to brunch when he said, "Would it be possible for me to take a shower?" I said, "Of course, Your Excellency."

Well, at Washington Place there was and still is, installed by Governor Stainback for his invalid wife, a small elevator. You've got the steps over here and right under here there's a small elevator to take you up. I took the President over and I opened this...it's like a closet door into this elevator. I took him and said, "Step in, Your Excellency." He looked up and he must have thought it was

the shower. He backed away and said, "No, I don't think I have to take a shower right now." (laughter) And we went back in.

Now either on that day or another day when I was having a lunch for President Sukarno, I had a call around noon from somebody in the Coast Guard, who said that there'd been a major earthquake in Chile. He said, "We don't know whether or not it's generated a tsunami, but if it has, it will hit Hawaii around midnight." "Thank you, very much."

I don't know whether I questioned him then or learned afterwards, but a tsunami as a shock wave going through water travels at a constant rate of speed like electricity through a wire, so they could say almost to the minute when it would come. In fact I remember something about 416 miles an hour, but I'm not sure that's right.

So I went back, resumed lunch, got the President off, called a group of people together right after lunch and said, "Now we've got to first find out whether there's a tidal wave generated." Everybody started making calls here and there and we quickly learned that there were no stations between Chile and the state of Hawaii that could tell us scientifically whether a tsunami had been generated or not. Then we started to zero in on that problem. How else can we learn?

S: Did you have a Civil Defense setup?

Q: Yes, and we had a Civil Defense emergency headquarters in Diamond Head. Civil Defense was (I'm trying to think of who it was) part of these discussions. Somebody came up with the idea of seeing if we couldn't communicate with somebody in Papeete because if it was coming from Chile it would pass by Tahiti and it would pass there about four o'clock in the afternoon or something like that. So we found a ham operator who had a contact with a ham operator in Papeete. We got the message to him, "Would you go to the harbor at Papeete between three and four o'clock in the afternoon and report to us anything you see that is unusual?"

He did that and he called back by radio to his contact in Honolulu. He said, "Around four o'clock it seemed as though the water just rose maybe five or six inches, stayed there for a while and then went back down." I said, "That's it. There is a tidal wave coming. Now let's get ready."

We opened up the Civil Defense headquarters, we sent word to the Big Island, and all agencies that ought to know were immediately informed. Then we said, "Now we'll start with the official warnings by radio and by actually sending people into the areas that were threatened. Evacuate. Go to

high ground." We thought we'd start that somewhere around eight o'clock at night since it was due here at midnight.

It was about eight or eight-thirty when I was being driven from downtown out to Diamond Head to the Civil Defense headquarters, which was going to be the communications center. I remember this so clearly. First, on the way out I go by the [Ala Wai] Yacht Harbor. I see all these boats floating in the water, anchored at the dock. I went in and there was just one watchman there. I said, "Haven't you had any word of warning about the impending tidal wave?" "No." "Well, you'd better call the people who put their boats here and tell them to take them out to sea or they're going to be destroyed."

He started calling and people did come and those that took their boats out to sea, their boats had no damage whatever because out at sea the tidal wave doesn't do anything. There were a few boats left there and they were all destroyed. If I personally hadn't been on my way out there and happened to see those boats, they'd have all been destroyed.

I went through Waikiki on my way out, that same trip. Business as usual. I went in the Royal, I guess, and I went to the assistant manager. I said, "Have you had any notice of a tidal wave?" "Yes, we have." "Well, I suggest that you get people off the first floor because it can always come in. It hasn't, historically, but it can always do something and come right along Waikiki Beach. Get the people up and away from there." I didn't think that the Royal would be washed away, but it certainly could come through the grounds. I said, "You get this word out to the industry to evacuate their first floors." Well, they did.

We get out there and I get reports that around nine o'clock the police had gone all through Hilo downtown and they'd gone back three or four blocks from the ocean and they'd told people to get out, the tidal wave is coming.

S: Did you have any definite word as to what Island or Islands it might hit?

Q: Well, coming from Chile it would first hit the Big Island because that's the southernmost and then it would keep coming all the way right along. But how it would do it. It didn't do anything to Papeete, but if it's caught like in Hilo Harbor then the wave starts to reverberate and echos. But water can't move that fast. The water just goes first one way then the other and then back.

We made certain that there was personal knowledge on the part of people in these areas including this Island, all Islands, that this thing was coming. I forget what time they

started to sound the sirens and give warnings. Well in advance. It was amazing because exactly at twelve o'clock we had one person who was a radio person in Hilo and we asked him to observe what happened and keep us advised.

We couldn't fly over there. There were no lights. We couldn't fly at night and get in there. I guess it was just about twelve o'clock and this fellow started to say, "Well, the water is receding, it's going out, looks like it's going out further than it usually does." It's a long, slow process. About twelve-thirty it started to come back in. He said, "The water's coming in, it's coming up the river, it's rising higher than it usually does." Then he started describing it going back out, and it takes a half hour. "This one," he says, "has gone out quite far. The reef is partially exposed out there. We don't see that very often." It came back in and it rose higher. He described what was happening. What he didn't say and what we didn't know was that there were a lot of people hanging on the bridge watching this right down there at the waterfront, including a couple of policemen.

Then the water went out again. He was still talking and he was describing this third wave. He says, "It's gone out and, my God, it's way out. The reef is totally exposed. Now it's beginning to come in." His voice got more and more excited. "My God, I've never seen anything like it, and listen to that roar." He says, "My God, it's fifty or sixty feet high!" and he was off the air.

We made arrangements to go over there at first light. I guess we probably got there about a quarter of six or six o'clock in the morning.

S: You had no further communication then?

Q: I can't say that for certain. There may have been. There was nothing further with him. And, of course, whether subsequently within an hour or two hours we were able to have telephone communication...but everything was wiped out. People on the other side wouldn't know anything. Kona wouldn't know what the hell was happening. I really don't think we had any.

We landed over there and we must have had some communication because we were met by the National Guard and others over there. We drove into town, and I'll never forget the total destruction on that whole waterfront. There was just maybe one big building, Hilo Electric, standing. One or two other things.

The first thing that really hit me was that they had some new parking meters down in that whole waterfront area, which was the heart of the business district in those days.

Right there on the waterfront. And they had these two-inch pipes, I guess, with parking meters on them. Every one of them was just down like this (demonstrates a 90 degree angle). Two-inch steel pipe. That was the power of this wave.

It had hit and gone up about three blocks taking out everything in its path. We called a meeting of community leaders, police, fire, medical and so forth to see what were the emergency steps that had to be done. What about the water supply, the power? What about health care? We had this meeting and I was presiding. The county chairman, Lofty [Thomas] Cook, was there and there were some of the supervisors (councilmen they're now called) there.

I guess even before that meeting when we had started walking through, near dawn, I noticed that there were young people just walking around through the wreckage. They'd find something, pick it up, put it in their pocket. The first thing I did was declare martial law, right there on the spot. We had a combination of Civil Defense workers, National Guard and police. I said, "Get everybody out of here and then allow people in only after proper identification." So they got all the people out. Here was total destruction, so there were a lot of valuables probably. We got it cleaned out.

We had this meeting. I guess one of the most dramatic things I remember about it was during a little break in the business of the meeting. We were making sure we'd get rid of the milk supply, for instance, because of the contamination, guarantee water to hospitals as best we could. During a lull, somebody said, "Has anybody seen...?" and they named a name. "No, who is he?" "Well, he's the fellow from the Federal Geophysical Labs," or something like that who learned that the tidal wave was coming when we first announced it after four o'clock and took a late plane to be over here to observe it as a student of this type of phenomenon.

About that time somebody else said, "Well, is he thus and so?" and described him a little bit. "Yes, that's the guy." "Just saw him in the morgue." This expert had allowed himself to be too close, and so had a great many people who all knew. We had about fifty-two fatalities. Many of them were people who had been told to leave, but they were two blocks away from the ocean and they said, "We were here in the 1946 tidal wave and nothing ever came up here. False alarm." But people died. It was a terrible tragedy.

Then started the disputes. First of all, a couple of investigative reporters for the Star-Bulletin said the warning system was terrible. They said, "Those people died needlessly." Well, there was no question that they died needlessly, but then they began to lay the burden right on me, really, on the administration for failing to do

something. Yet, as I've just told you, if we hadn't been able to get contact with that radio operator in Tahiti and had just assumed nothing happened any place else, it was not going to happen here, it would have been frightful.

But this went on not for a day or two, but for weeks. The big disputes. Of course, the one thing that did come out of it and it came out with my strong insistence was that the United States had to have some warning out there in the Pacific, more than they had. Of course, it's great now, but, God, we had all kinds of experts in those days. "We should have known," or "We should have done this," or "We should have done that, we should have done the other thing."

S: Monday morning quarterbacks.

Q: Exactly. But it went on and on and on. My immediate thought and I think by the time we got to an aftermath of this thing, I think the legislative session was adjourned. So my thinking was that we had to have another special session because this was real serious. We had to find places for these people and these homes and these businesses.

Fortunately, the state owned land just above downtown Hilo. That was a perfect situation to take that land and get value for it, but let it be distributed on a drawing by lot basis and not bid up, speculatively. Replace downtown Hilo up above and keep the destroyed portion as a waterfront park. It then happened that my good friend Walter Collins, who had headed my destination area study, had also been doing a study of downtown Hilo. One of the thoughts that he had was that a lot of this ought to be park. So we dovetailed.

Then I wanted to get a special session in order to permit us to make that land available on a drawing by lot basis where nobody was making any big profit. Get them out and let's rebuild this city. You can't imagine the battling that went on. Many of the merchants in Hilo said, "We want to build right back where we were." I said, "That's ridiculous! You saw what can happen here. Why do it again?" Because they'd had one in '46 not as bad.

So we did get a special session. Elmer Cravalho, speaker of the House, and others, "We don't need another special session." Tom Gill was on me. Oh God, just like this, because Tom was not only a member of the House, but also chairman of the Democratic party. Kept hitting away. "It's your fault we had the tidal wave and we certainly don't need a special session." (laughs) It was just awful. I didn't remember it until I read this stuff the other day. It was just so bad and it's still in the first half year of my first term as the elected governor of this new state. (laughs)

We finally had the special session and we did exactly what I wanted them to do. You can see it over there in Hilo today and you can see it in the prosperous business community and residences up higher. All doing well. A nice waterfront park there and that terrible damage will never happen in Hilo again. That I am very pleased to look on.

END OF TAPE 5/SIDE 1

Q: It was really God awful. As I say, my legislative program just went to hell, my capital budget was destroyed, I was blamed for everything under the sun, I had no real support in the Legislature, not even Heb Porteus or the leaders in the Republicans. Doc Hill was a good friend of mine, but Doc Hill wasn't about to let me spend money for Kona when we had Hilo to look after. It just went on and on like that.

So we did have a special session for the tidal wave. It did give me an opportunity to show that the second Mahele wasn't just a lot of hot air. You know, the second Mahele that I'd given the wrong name to, and I've kicked myself from then until now about that. But it did give me the opportunity to show that you could take state land and use it for social purposes for the betterment of the people of Hawaii, and that the main thing was that you don't put it up for auction so people can come in that don't deserve to have it. You select the class of people you want to have it. In this case, the people who were damaged and destroyed by that tidal wave and you let them come in and they draw by lot. The lucky ones get the prime pieces, but they all get something. That's exactly what happened and it worked.

We put another one in the next session, I guess it was. There was a piece of state land that ran from Kamuela down toward the ocean, a hillside lot. It was owned by the state. It had been leased by Parker Ranch and the lease was up. I made the determination, again making a few more enemies on the way including some pretty powerful ranch enemies, that this would be marvelous farm land if we had qualified farmers to farm it. And if we had qualified farmers to farm it, then we could make it available to them on a drawing by lot basis and they could go in and establish farms on this property.

Well, that was a humdinger to try to get passed, but we did. Mostly with Democrat support. I can look today at Lalamilo and say, "This is something great," because we had people who had to qualify as farmers and we demanded so many years of farming experience. Then we took Lalamilo and divided it into lots of twenty-five acres or something like that. Maybe twelve and a half or twenty-five. Various sizes, I guess. Then we had the drawings and these people and their families moved into this property that had never

been available to any farmers before. Really good farmland, but it had been controlled by the big ranch.

S: Did they buy this land fee simple?

Q: Yes.

S: Were there any stipulations that they had to farm it for a certain number of years?

Q: Yes, they had to farm it for quite a while and if they didn't, it had to be sold back to the state. But they all farmed it. They farmed it and they were prosperous farms. And they were good farms. And they were farms that did all sorts of things. Green vegetables and fruit. Various kinds. My God, it was so exciting a year or so later to visit that place and see what was happening. It made it all worthwhile right then. I haven't been to Lalamilo for a long time but I think it's still a farm community.

S: Do you have any idea of how many acres were involved? Hundreds? Thousands?

Q: What comes to my mind is 1,200. I think that's right.

S: And the largest would have been twenty-five acres?

Q: Yes, small farms. So that worked, but so much of what we tried to do in those early years just didn't seem to receive the acceptance and, as I say, without my own party's acceptance and pressure with a solid vote of some sort, it just all sort of diffused and faded away.

One thing that was going on the same time, the same damn six-month period, and caught the newspapers and particularly one guy. I tried to be nice to all the press, but Don Horio, who subsequently became Jack Burns' press secretary (he was that much of a partisan man) but he was a writer and he was a featured news writer.

What happened was that here in this off-year 1958, the Republicans nationally had lost a lot. President Eisenhower's popularity was on the wane. Like [Ronald] Reagan, it was his last two years. There was a lot of talk about who were going to be the Republican presidential candidates. Rockefeller and Nixon were two that were being talked about. In those days I liked Nelson very much and I had known Nelson. But I thought that Nixon was the man.

At any rate, I don't know where it started, but two things. One, particularly if Jack Kennedy, a Catholic, gets the Democratic nomination, the best choice for vice president on the Republican ticket would be young Governor Quinn. This was being said all over the country. The other that

accompanied that was that at the next Republican convention the keynote speaker was going to be young Governor Quinn.

Here I am just being hit from so many directions, trying to get a few things done and get this state started on the right foot and all of this extraneous rumor comes in. The press isn't interested in what I'm trying to do for this state. They're interested in, "Are you going to do it?" Don Horio came. I remember this so well because it was the first and only time I think I ever really lost my temper to the press and, of course, he wrote every bit of it.

But he kept pressing me. "Are you going to do it? Would you do it? Well, suppose they ask you. Are you going to do it?" Finally, I threw my glasses down. I said, "Listen. It's just so hypothetical and I've got so many things on my mind that I'm trying to do. I don't even think about it." But there it was just time after time after time. It was terrible.

Then gradually as things went on, I didn't get asked to speak as the keynote speaker. I think I did speak. The thing began to subside on the vice presidency, but not before it was in Winchell's column and it was all over the place. I just couldn't get away from it.

I guess it was because in 1958, November, the Republicans took a hell of a beating, nation wide. Summer of 1959 the only election in town and one that got a lot of nationwide attention because it was a brand new state and a Republican won. So he was on the cover of Time. But it was terrible. I didn't want to spend any time on that. I didn't want to think about it. I had so much to do, to try to do. I try to shake my own Republicans up to do something. Here all of this stuff kept coming at me. I'll never forget. It was awful, just awful.

S: You mentioned your picture on the cover of Time. I remember reading a story that they had done a portrait of Jack Burns, but they didn't think you were going to make it, so they just took a picture. (laughs)

Q: That's correct. That is exactly the case. About three days before the statehood election, two things happened. One, the fellow that wrote Hawaii Pono, [A Social History], the professor whose name escapes me, the fellow from the Jewish University in New York. He'd been out here for a year and he'd been doing research on Hawaii as a territory and leading up to statehood.

S: I'm thinking of Lawrence Fuchs.

Q: That's it. That's the guy. Larry Fuchs. I got a call and he wanted a couple of hours with me. Now this was right

in the closing days of the statehood campaign. I said, "I can't do that. I haven't got any time." Howard Hubbard, my very dear friend and campaign manager, long deceased, said, "Oh, you ought to do that. This guy's writing a book and he can't write it without you. He's leaving shortly to go back to the mainland. He's been here all this time." So we figured a time, sometime on Saturday afternoon, I think, with the election the following Tuesday.

I spent a couple of hours with Larry Fuchs. We got along very well. Talked a lot. He was about to leave. He said, "Well, Governor, I'm just going to have to tell you something. You haven't got a chance in hell of winning this election next week, but if it's any comfort to you, you're far and away the best governor that Hawaii's ever had."

Well, how do you like hearing that with the election a few days away? Here's a real political scientist who has studied the matter for nine months and he says, "You haven't got a chance." (laughs) The next thing that happened, maybe even that same day or early the next morning. I was going to go to Hilo for the last big blast. They have the big gatherings over there. A fellow by the name of Jonathan Reinhart was writing, I think, for Time magazine. He said, "I've got to have a chance to talk to you." I said, "I haven't got a minute. I'm going over to Hilo." He said, "Can I go on the plane with you?" I said, "Okay."

He said, "I need a picture." I said, "I don't know when you're going to do that. We're leaving at six o'clock or six-thirty in the morning." He said, "Maybe I can send a photographer up to your office at six o'clock." So at six o'clock I'm ready up there and up came the photographer with a lei, put the lei around my neck, we went out on the balcony, he took a few pictures. I went to the airport, got in and Jonathan Reinhart started asking me a lot of questions.

And you're exactly right. They had the article all done for Jack Burns. The artist had already finished all the art work for the cover and it was just at the last minute they thought, "Maybe this will go the other way." Just the exact opposite of the conclusion that Larry Fuchs had reached in the same time frame. But then I did hear that down in Chinatown the odds were beginning to change in my favor. (laughs)

That brings back another story. That is that there was a guy who had come down here from Washington. A big, big time political mogul, but he wasn't in for the governor's race. He was interested in Hiram Fong for the Senate. I didn't see much of him, but somehow or other on election night he wanted me to join this group at a hotel suite and watch the returns from there. Not just go directly to my

headquarters or anything. I guess Nancy and I did that and joined them about seven or seven-thirty.

There was quite a little group there. Some foodstuffs and so forth. We were watching, listening I guess mostly, not watching. Listening to the election returns as they were being reported. It was a ponderous process in those days. It wasn't computerized like it is now. This fellow's first name was Vic, and he didn't like me and I didn't like him. I knew that.

We were hanging in there and the returns were coming in. The Neighbor Islands start to come in and it looks like I'm dropping lower and lower. Finally he said, "You'd better go to your headquarters and concede. You owe it to them." He's telling me this and I said, "No, I'm not going to do that."

Suddenly things shift and suddenly it looks like I'm a winner. I said, "Now I'm going to headquarters, so I can share this with my friends." We get in the car and we start heading for headquarters and we're pretty close to headquarters when I turn the radio on a different station and they say, "It looks like the gap between them is broadening and Burns is moving further ahead." I said, "Keep going on your way to Washington Place."

Here I've had the up and down and the up and down in that close little span. I get to Washington Place and Mrs. Silva, a nurse, opens the door and says, "Congratulations, Governor." I said, "What do you mean?" She said, "Mr. Burns is on the phone right now." I picked it up. Jack Burns called me, congratulated me and concedes. (laughs) I couldn't believe it. In such a short span of time. But he was a lot closer to it, I guess, and was listening to the right people. Probably had the newspaper people with him.

S: He was a little more up to date than the radio station.

Q: Yes. Then I went back and I remember this one. They had an eightieth birthday party for Hiram Fong some months ago and I remember Hiram Fong, who had long since won, was just coming to headquarters. We gave each other a great big bearhug. I have a picture of that and it's the most magnificent picture. I had occasion to talk a little bit at his dinner and I remember mentioning that.

So there it was and the joy in Mudville was terrific. You were quite right. Nobody who thought that they were any sort of an expert gave me a chance and that's probably why I won. Because one thing was definitely true. The ILWU had a certain respect for me because I had been involved and they gave me credit for ending that major sugar strike. Subsequently the Silva bill didn't help any. But at that

time it was just that Burns was their man. In fact at one point they had said, "You run for Senate and we'll back you."

On places like Kauai I was able to go to the union people and address them directly and make friends with them and get them to work for me. They'd put my signs up in their yards. I carried many of those precincts. I think the reason was that the ILWU officials, Jack Hall and the others, said, "Burns is a shoo-in. We don't have to worry about it."

The next time around, I still had those same friends and they still put up the same signs, but the next morning after the signs were put up, they were all slashed. These people were given the strongest of union discipline to knock it off. That was part of it, I think.

One thing I was doing, so much so again, that Tom Gill had a great time with the absentee governor, was I was accepting occasional speeches on the mainland talking about "Sun-Tanned and Gilt-Edged." Trying "Come to Hawaii. There's great opportunity for you if you want to invest money. Here's the place to do it." I was really out there doing a lot of selling because I was getting some pretty good audiences. I told you about the one, but there were others.

I was being asked as we got into '60 to make political speeches, also. I would leave town for a little while. One of the things was "absentee," although when you look at it in historic frame and you see what happened subsequently, I was here a lot more and travelled a lot less than any of the successors. At that time you had to do it.

S: If you had been on the mainland, nobody would have noticed as much. But because you were in Hawaii....

Q: Oh, no. And also because I'm the first governor that they had.

S: And you were in a fishbowl more than anybody else.

Q: Absolutely, absolutely. I remember I took one trip back to Minnesota and this was in early 1960, I think. A tribute to Ike was what it was called. I guess it was around Lincoln Day. At any rate I went back to Minnesota to speak, and on the way I spoke in the state of Washington two or three times. Went to Minnesota and this was a big affair. I think, even then, it was \$150 a plate. Black tie. Lots of bigwigs from that part of the country.

I had a friend from St. Louis. A fellow who had gone to St. Louis University and we'd become friends in one summer school. This was a fellow who was studying to become a

priest. I think I told you about this because he wrote a term paper for me one time.

S: (laughs) George.

Q: That's right. George Garrelts. George was then in Minneapolis and he was the head of the Newman Foundation at the University of Minnesota. He had gotten a regional reputation as a philosopher and a writer and was living up to everything I knew George could do. Parentheses, sadly I think he left the priesthood and at one time he was even interested in coming out here. Could I find a teaching job for him? It was just when several other ex-priests had come to teach in Hawaii. I asked Chaminade and others and they said, "We've just got a couple. We can't." I couldn't do anything for him and I have no idea now where George Garrelts is. But he was one of the finest minds I've ever known. End of parentheses.

In correspondence with my hosts back there they asked, "Is there any part of the program that you want us to do?" I said, "I've got a friend back there and I'd like to have him give the invocation at the dinner." I didn't know at the time but this startled them terribly because he was known as a way out liberal and I mean way out. (laughter) And widely known.

But they respected my wishes and he, I guess also, swallowed a pill in order to give the invocation at this big Republican function. And so he did and I made a talk and it was very well received. I had worked hard on it. It was a good talk. I got my licks in on Hawaii and the selling of Hawaii in the course of it, as well as a tribute to Ike. In fact, it fit very naturally since Ike had sponsored statehood.

The next morning George was going to take me out to the airport and we had a few hours to spare. He said, "What would you like to do? Would you like to talk? Eat? Drink? Get a little exercise?" I said, "That's for me." He said, "Do you play paddle ball?" I said, "I've played a little bit." He said, "Let's go over. We'll get a court and have a couple of games. I've got all you need. Shoes and everything else."

So we went over to the field house and on the way I learned that he was the University's open champion. (laughs) We got a court and I was trying to hold my own for a few points. I was getting by. I used to be pretty good in any racquet game. Then he hit a ball. I don't know how much you know about racquet ball, but it's a four-wall game, indoors, wooden paddle type of thing, hard rubber ball.

S: And one should wear protective eye covering, I understand.

Q: Yes, and I didn't have any sort of masking on. He hit a ball and he hit it low, about waist high, and I don't know how he did it but it was coming down very close to the wall all the way down. I figured I could hit it with the very tip of the racquet so I wouldn't hit the wall with the racquet and I could flip it. I flipped that racquet right into my mouth whereupon I started spitting out pieces of tooth.

We went right to a dentist and the dentist said, "Well, one tooth is broken off. I can't do anything with that except that you ought to get the nerve removed." The other one was splintered. It was cracked at the top and down the side. He put a plastic cap over it to just hold it together. That quickly filled with a little blood so I was quite a sight to see.

As I recall, I got on the plane and the plane stopped in Denver and I had to make a change there to get to San Francisco. I called a friend of mine in San Francisco and said, "You've got to get me into a dentist first thing tomorrow morning. I'm scheduled to talk to the Republicans in the Bay Area." Outside of San Francisco proper. Santa Clara, Burlingame, that whole rich Republican area.

Believe it or not I got in a dentist's chair about eight-thirty. First he did a root removal on one tooth. Then he took this other one apart. Did a root removal on that one and all of that took quite a bit of time, quite a bit of pain, too, and an awful lot of painkiller. Then he said, "I'm going to put this one back together for a while, temporarily." He fashioned a tiny little gold nail. He filled the tooth with something, put the top back on, drilled a hole behind the tooth, put the nail in and the nail held the tooth together.

By this time I think I just had time to change my clothes and get to the reception half an hour late. That's how long it took during the day. All day long! I got there and I start meeting people and everybody says, "Hello, Governor. Governor, I'm happy to meet you." The word had gotten out that I had broken teeth and I'd been in the dentist chair. Everyone greeted me looking at my teeth.

Here I had this great speech, which had been a real success at Minneapolis. I mean it got a standing ovation. But in California in that very year, or two years before, the Republican party had just split asunder. Half of them were backing Bill [William F.] Knowland for governor, the other half backing the guy who was running to succeed himself as governor, Goodwin Knight. The Republicans had just split and Pat Brown had won.

I thought here's a golden opportunity. They all know about my tooth, but they don't know about the gold nail that holds these things together. I threw away my script. I spoke about twenty minutes. I spoke about what they all knew. I told them what happened to my teeth. Then I started talking about how things that are fractured can be brought together and held together and all it needs is a little gold nail to make the parts one. It was the best speech I ever gave in my life. (laughs) It was addressed right to the point. It was really something.

At any rate, I did that quite a bit. I probably made one or two other trips to make speeches on behalf of one or another Republican candidate. After that special session involving the tidal wave, things began to shape up. We were going through a rocky time trying to put all those agencies into a few departments.

I made a choice. One of the people that had been carried over for a while back when I first became territorial governor was an older Chinese fellow Kam Tai Lee as treasurer. I thought I'd get a younger person in there. I did and he carried over into statehood. Raymond Ho. A very bright, able fellow. He'd been head of the Chinese Chamber, Junior Chamber, one of the outstanding men in the country. That sort of thing.

But Raymond did not live up to my expectations and was a disappointment to me because of the way he handled his affairs in office. About the only one that I ever had this type of problem with. I had a call from a chap that I liked and respected, Rudy Peterson, who was head then of the Bank of Hawaii and subsequently became head of the World Bank. Before that, head of the Bank of America.

Rudy said, "Can I come see you, Bill?" I said, "Sure." He said, "Maybe you don't know what's going on and I'm going to assume you don't, but your man Ho is going around to all financial institutions saying, 'I'll deposit state funds in your bank, but only if you'll make such and such a contribution.'" I heard that and I just hit the ceiling. I've got to confess I called Raymond Ho in and I read him up one side and down the other, I read the riot act to him, but I didn't fire him. I should have. It never happened again, but I shouldn't have tolerated him around after that. Instead, I just made damn sure that it never happened again. I felt that he was just being overly zealous, that he wasn't pocketing money. It was supposedly being done in my behalf. That's the only such incident that I can recall.

I think I've said this before, but I have to say it again. We didn't have a bunch of brilliant people. We had some that were carryovers and some that I had selected, but

somehow or other these people got the feeling that they were out to accomplish something. This includes also the senior levels of civil service. They were working hard, they were dedicated, there was nobody that I can say truthfully got involved in any sort of scandal during that whole period with the possible exception of that incident with Ray Ho.

It was during that period, maybe about September of 1960, that I started something that went extremely well for maybe a year and a half or so and that was a weekly report to the people on television. This was not a Reagan report. This was a meeting with five or six of the top newspaper people here. No holds barred except possibly we'd say, "Tonight let's talk about...", and we'd name a general subject.

They would go at me for fifteen minutes and then calls from the public for another fifteen. This was on television. Well, I loved it. And it was effective. People knew what was happening. And if they didn't, they could ask the questions and they'd get their answers. I really felt that of all the things I was doing this was probably one of the most constructive. Sure I was putting my career on the line, but it was worthwhile. It was doing something that I felt needed to be done, particularly in a state where nobody had known for years what went on in government.

S: There's nothing like communication.

Q: Exactly. So we did that and that lasted right up until somebody suggested to the TV station at least a year before the next statehood election, "Look, this guy's going to be a candidate and you can't let him have that sort of time." So we had to cancel it. I think that was a mistake on their part. I think it was a disservice. I think they could have allowed the governor at least up until he really started campaigning to continue this program because it wasn't self-serving at all. In fact, I didn't even make an opening statement.

The other thing that we did, carrying out this same thing, and, God, it worked. I'm hopeful that this young governor's going to do it because he seems to be making an effort to be open, which hasn't been true for twenty years or so. We started holding cabinet meetings in various places, particularly on the Neighbor Islands. And we'd do it up on a stage with an auditorium full of people. We'd conduct our regular meeting and we'd invite people in an orderly way to get up and ask any member, the head of any agency, what happened to my leasehold or whatever question they had.

We got more things done. We found that there were people that might have had a problem for five years and they couldn't get an answer. We'd get them an answer right there

because everybody was there that was responsible. Again, it was something that I felt was bringing the government to the people, responding to the people in a way that really would make us all a better people and a better place to live. And it worked. I think we did that a number of times and, as we gradually got close to where we were starting to campaign, I think we had to stop that, too.

Those were a couple of things that we did that were innovative. I guess there are a lot of other things to say about 1961 and 1962, but I think I've probably spilled my beans as best I can right now.

S: For today anyway.

END OF TAPE 5/SIDE 2

March 31, 1987

Q: Maybe I'd better start with the late fall of 1960. Nancy and I were invited to Japan. This was a celebration of several things; one, it was a celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the treaty of trade and amity with the United States and Japan. Of course, we were a logical one because of our Japanese population, but it was also a way in which the Japanese government was trying to make up for the fact that the President's visit to Japan had been aborted. He had planned a visit to Japan and he sent his advance guard out there with his press secretary James Hagerty, and they'd been mobbed at the airport and the President canceled his trip. I'm going to have to tell you how far he came when he did come, because he came here. And I haven't covered that with you and that was another disaster.

At any rate, we were invited to go to Japan and it was suggested that we bring a party of three other couples and it was suggested that perhaps some of them would be Americans of Japanese ancestry. Well, I put a party together. I thought this was something I really should do. I guess this was in November of 1960. I asked the President of the Senate, Doc Hill and his wife, I asked my Attorney General Shiro Kashiwa and his wife, and I asked Larry Nakatsuka and his wife. This was, I think, in the matter of timing--I think Larry had been my press secretary and then Larry had been turned down for a cabinet post and then I think he was a deputy in one of the other departments.

As soon as we accepted this--to go to Japan--then we got an invitation to go to Taiwan as a guest of the Taiwanese government. We had entertained Madame Chiang here. Then we got an invitation from President [Carlos] Garcia to go to the Philippines. Because we were going to go out as guests of Japan, they weren't going to be outdone. So we did this.

The first place we went was Japan and I have never had such hospitality. They went overboard. They assigned two people from their Foreign Affairs Department with us and I was going around making speeches and the others were all sightseeing and having fun. I don't want to prolong this except for two or three significant events. One was that we had entertained Prince and Princess Takamatsu here, also before this trip. He was the emperor's brother. We came back from Osaka where we ate fish on the plane that didn't agree with many of us. The next morning at ten o'clock we had an audience with the emperor. This was really something. We went into the palace and we were met with the aides-de-camp in morning coats, tails and striped pants, and we were conducted into the presence. The emperor came in and the empress.

The emperor and I had quite a long talk about his collection of tropical fish and about Hawaii and about various things. Very cordial, but very impressive. And a rare thing for anybody to have that access. That same day we then had lunch at Prince Takamatsu's, which is a home on the palace grounds, and about that time I think Ouida Hill, Mrs. Hill, was the first one to start getting sick from that fish the night before. They had a beautiful lunch set up for the four of us. I don't know if they had any other guests or not, but they had one person, liveried, standing behind each chair. They had some things which they served with silver chopsticks, some things they served with knife and fork. It was just lovely, but we had to leave early because Ouida was ill.

We went back and that night the Foreign Minister was having a dinner for us. We'd been there maybe three days and he had been out campaigning and had just concluded a successful election. In fact, I watched some of the debates on television when I was there. I was very impressed because their television debates were going at each other half an hour and then a quarter hour reply. I came back and told people here this is really what ought to be happening. Not these one and a half minute answers.

At any rate, the Foreign Minister was just elated and in his element. He gave this beautiful teahouse party. I was prepared. I had learned "Kuroda Bushi" to sing and during the course of it, the Foreign Minister wrapped a silk shawl around his head, got up, did a dance. I got up and sang "Kuroda Bushi" but all of a sudden in the latter part--I made it--but I was the last one to get sick from that fish. Right there at that party. I made it through the party, but I think I turned green the last half of it. I was so bad. But that was all in one day.

We went to Taiwan. We were met by the Foreign Minister who informed us that Generalissimo and Madame Chiang were at Sun Moon Lake. Sometime the same day the Foreign Minister

said that Generalissimo and Madame Chiang wondered if we could join them for lunch at Sun Moon Lake. Just Nancy and me. We could be flown to this country estate seated up on a mountain overlooking Sun Moon Lake. Just the four of us would have lunch. Before lunch we exchanged gifts. I believe I gave him an oil painting.

After lunch the Generalissimo and I stepped out onto a balcony overlooking this magnificent lake and the mountains in the distance. And this frail man, with skin, absolutely smooth skin, but just drawn tightly like parchment, and bony fingers and thin, in his eighties. We went out and started to talk. We talked a little bit about how he had left mainland China. He crooked a finger and pointed to the mainland and he looked me right in the eye and said, "We will go back."

That was the highpoint of that Taiwan visit although we saw a great deal of Taiwan. We went into the countryside. At that time they had magnificent pineapple fields. I subsequently learned when I became president of Dole Pineapple, they were very competitive. They had good pineapple and they put it in a can with a blue label that looked rather like a Dole label on the shelf except it was ten cents a can cheaper.

Then we went to the Philippines. President Garcia's Foreign Minister Vargas met us. President Garcia had some things going on. He had an international conference of some sort. A lot of people from other countries were there. I think it had to do with the opening of the cemetery, the World War II cemetery there. So he had English, he had Australians, he had lots of Americans. They had a big program for that the next day, I think.

The Foreign Minister gave us that invitation. He was in a nice barong tagalog and I asked, "What is the dress? Is it barong tagalog or is it black tie?" He said, "Barong is perfect." I thought, "Well, I'll go get myself a new one," which I did and so at the appointed hour we go. There's a large reception room at Malacanang Palace. President and Madame Garcia had not yet made their appearance. I went wearing my new barong and everybody is in black tie or white coat and black tie. Dinner jackets. And there I was in a barong.

Finally, I spotted a fellow whom I knew a little bit who was the Minister of Defense at that time. He was a rumpled guy all the time. And he was rumpled that day. He had a wrinkled barong tagalog on and a couple of pencils in the pocket. So I went over and stood next to him. In came the President with Madame Garcia and the Foreign Secretary, all in black tie. I went through the receiving line, got to the Secretary and I said, "Boy, you sure misled me." He said,

"This was the President's decision at three o'clock this afternoon." Well, I wasn't out of place particularly, but I sure felt it. That was a wonderful trip. (laughs)

S: How long were you on that particular visit?

Q: I'd say it was about ten days total.

There were two or three visits that we had and each one of them was important, interesting, and caused terrible, terrible problems, particularly political problems. The press just loved to play them up.

The first one was President Eisenhower. President Eisenhower decided he would come to Hawaii, but this was a rest. He sent his advance group here and said that he was going to stay at Kaneohe and not going any place else.

S: Was this after his illness?

Q: Yes, although he spoke well. Maybe a slight lisp. So I said, "Well, it's impossible for the President to come here and I, a Republican governor, not be permitted to have a major entertainment where I could invite our people to meet him." Sorry. Finally, they said okay. First they said, "You can have 150 people." I said, "You've got to be out of your mind. There's no way I can do that." I think we compromised on 250 and I had about 350. It had to be over at Kaneohe. I couldn't have it at Washington Place. I met the President; I rode with him; he stood up with that brilliant smile and people lined the roads and he was just wonderful. But he went to Kaneohe. They fixed up the commanding officer's house, I think, and he moved into that. That's where he was and that's where he was going to stay.

I was going to have a reception at Kaneohe for the President. I invited the leadership of the House and the Senate. And Tom Gill comes out, "What do you mean? If you're not going to invite every member of this House, you're not going to get me to go." And Elmer Cravalho said, "That's right. We are the people; we are the government; we are the ones who should meet the president."

This went on and on. They said, "We aren't going to go," and they didn't. I couldn't believe it. It was just so bad. And there it was day after day after day. The President also gave a little dinner party. It seems to me that he was seated next to Nancy. He had Nancy on his right. They got along quite famously and well. I think she went out to powder her nose or something and she came back and there was the President alone in the room. They started to talk and they just became great friends. When he left, (and I've got the picture some place at home) she gave him a lei to say goodbye and he was there with his famous smile and she also

with a big smile, and it's a wonderful, wonderful picture. That was it, but that invitation brouhaha was so bad.

We entertained the King [Bhumibol] and Queen [Sirikit] of Thailand. She had never left Thailand before. She who subsequently became one of the ten best-dressed women for years. She was a beautiful girl. They hadn't been married all that long and this was their first trip. The first thing I learned was that they were going to be in Hawaii for five days, but the State Department took no responsibility until they got to Washington. So they were my guests and they were my responsibility. They had the American ambassador with them. Alexis Johnson. U. Alexis Johnson, called Alex.

I started planning a program. We went to meet them. I got a couple of cars. They were young and so attractive and so modest in their way. I took the King in one car. He was about ten years younger than I, I guess. Eight to ten. Nancy was with the Queen who wore a hat. It turned out it was the first time she had ever worn a hat. And she said to Nancy, "How should this go?" and Nancy was giving her a little advice. This was the woman who within ten years was one of the ten best-dressed women in the world.

We did things together. We went to the Neighbor Islands with them. We went to the Art Academy. There was a special exhibit of Buddhist Oriental art. He previously had donned his yellow robe and taken his rice bowl and gone among his people, so he was a very devout Buddhist. He was explaining symbolism in the various paintings to me. We just had a great time.

We had a public reception. The culmination was going to be a formal dinner party. I think we worked this out. How do we get this down to fifty people? We worked with Alexis Johnson. Who were the consuls and all who had to be there. And we worked out an invitation list.

It was a lovely party. I had learned that the King loved to play the clarinet and that he was very good. In fact, the advance guard had even brought a couple of records that he had made. So I got the Dixieland Band to be the entertainment that night and after dinner we set up four nice arm chairs, and the patio filled with all the guests seated. Up above was the Dixieland Band and they played a couple of numbers. I told them to get a silver mouthpiece.

After a couple of numbers I turned to His Majesty and said, "Your Majesty, I understand that you play a mean clarinet. I wonder if you would join the band?" He turned to Her Majesty and said, "What do you think?" She said, "Well, if the Governor will sing, then it's all right." So I got up and I sang a number or so after which he got up. We gave him the mouthpiece. He stood with that band for about

an hour playing music. Earlier in the dinner I was so surprised and really thrilled because we had an exchange of talks and included in that was an exchange of gifts. You know, what do you give a king? Whereupon he comes, opens up a box, has a couple of aides, comes over with them, puts a ribbon around me, a great big medal down below another medal on my chest for the [Most Exalted] Order of the White Elephant. Knight Commander of the Order of the White Elephant.

I never thought that much about it. I've got it with several other medals in a little frame. It was only a few years ago CINCPAC had a dinner party for a number of visiting Thai. We were invited and went. One of them was the Foreign Minister. We got to talking to him about our prior visit (which I haven't told you about) to Thailand. I said as a matter of fact that I was decorated with the Order of the White Elephant. "Oh, is that right? And what rank?" I said, "Knight Commander," and he was so astonished. He said, "I'm just finishing my years of public service and I'm told that I am to receive the Knight Commander's rank of the Order of the White Elephant upon the conclusion of my service." Imagine!

The Lieutenant Governor wasn't invited to the dinner. The news emphasized how I was once again slighting my Lieutenant Governor; how I was once again refusing to let him be part of the government. And that in itself went on from two weeks after the election in 1959 right through to 1962. Every time there was a chance for a reporter to play that theme, he'd do it. If there's one, there's five dozen stories over that limited period of time just on that subject. It was just awful.

Sometime later, we visited Thailand. The King and Queen were still away on their trip and it was the King's birthday. We got there and the Foreign Minister met us, put us in the Erehwon Hotel, this beautiful, old hotel. We were invited out on the King's barge to take a trip up and down the river on the night of the King's birthday. The King is a revered figure. The lights are on all along the shoreline and pictures of the King all over the place. They started serving this banquet and Princess Pumapu or whatever her name was was on my right, and among the other things they served they have very hot foods, Chinese style, but very highly seasoned.

S: Yes, a lot of us have experienced Keo's at this point.
(laughs)

Q: So they had this rice roll and some pork. They served a sauce. I started to put on a little sauce and Princess Pumapu said, "It's quite hot." "Oh, I love it hot," and I threw it on. About that time the Foreign Minister got up and

made a little talk and I took a bite. He said, "To the President of the United States." About that time I put that stuff in my mouth and it nearly burned the inside of my mouth out. I was gasping for breath. I was perspiring as I tried to respond to that toast. (laughs) I don't think anybody noticed it, but I sure did.

Before the King and Queen left here--remembering that visit again now for a minute--to go to the mainland, Nancy and I went to see them off. I had a lei for them and we got there and the King had a Thai style lei, which is like a horseshoe, not connected. We'd gotten quite close and when I was saying goodbye to this young man and knew what he had in store for him for the rest of his life, I had a tear in my eye and he did, too. Alex Johnson said to me that day, "You know, Governor, you're the first friend this King has ever had. In Thailand they still approach on their knees and there's nobody that he has any closeness with except possibly a relative or two." He said, "You're the first friend he's ever had."

S: And you let him jam, too. (laughter)

Q: That's right. But enough. That sort of thing went on all the time. We had to handle that while everything else was going on. We had major preparations to make for the 1961 Legislature, which was a general session. We'd already had, if you remember, four or five, but now comes the first big one.

There were major problems caused by statehood itself. One feature of the statehood bill dealt with the fact that up until statehood there were many laws that were passed by the Congress of the United States over regulation of territorial commerce, such as the antitrust laws. The territory of Hawaii would enforce the federal antitrust laws, theoretically, and had no antitrust law for interior commerce. That was one of the problems.

The statehood bill said, "All such laws shall remain in existence for two years, after which they shall expire," so it took a major study. What's going to expire and what do we need to get passed by this 1961 Legislature? One that comes to my mind and one that had a great deal of publicity was antitrust. But there were a number of others.

So as the 1961 Legislature convened I gave them a big legislative program. I mean we had worked and worked and worked night after night after night and worked with party and worked with cabinet and worked with everybody else to develop all the things that we really needed. Many of the things were to fine tune the reorganization. There were many things in the constitution that required legislative action before you could make appointments, such as a Land Board.

I had a new Land Use Commission that I was proposing and that was very unique throughout the nation. My motivation for it was that in those days Honolulu was not organized, did not have decent planning, did not have decent zoning, and the thing was just going hog wild. People were forcing plantations to get out of business and build subdivisions. So I wanted this thing at the state level to get a hold on that, slow it down, get some reasoning into the process. I went into that explanation that way because today I agree with the Governor (Waihee) that I think the Land Use Commission is now obsolete. It was needed then; it's not needed now and it's simply an extra layer.

We had many proposals and we had the land bill which was the keystone of my legislative program. We needed (we felt) to confirm the powers of the state government over these lands that had come back from the federal government. But I wanted it also because I wanted to expand and change some of our powers and particularly the power to use some of these vast state-owned lands, so much more than any other state, and put them to use for social purposes.

When we needed housing, I wanted to make state land available. We had people who needed housing, whether volcano or tidal wave victims or whether they were farmers needing farms. I wanted to use the land instead of putting it out as we had to do by public auction, which meant that the people that you wanted to get it couldn't get it. We wanted to sell at an appraised value, a good reasonable value level, and let people get it by drawing by lot. That was the essence of what I stupidly had once called the Second Mahele.

So we presented that bill. As soon as the House got it, the reaction was, "It has no chance of passage. Forget it." Another major problem that we faced then was the fact that under the statehood bill we were given five years to try to show that some of the other lands that were retained by the federal government should be turned over to the state. A very major question. I mean Bellows Field, Fort Ruger, Fort DeRussy, the land surrounding the operations at Pearl Harbor, surrounding Schofield. Tremendous land resources. And a Defense Department that was going to try to hold on to every thing that they had. So that was a major problem that we were dealing with.

We went into this session. So much was going on. It was so tremendous. As we got through, the first thing that happened was they were going to do the same thing they had always done; they were going to stop the clock. And then they could get a lot of things done. Stop the clock, no deadlines, they pay each other every day. Charlie Kauhane had stopped it in the 1957 Legislature, I think, (just before I became governor) for thirty days. You know, it's always April 1st. For thirty days it was April 1st. But they'd get paid for thirty days.

So they were going to stop the clock. I said, "Stopping the clock isn't going to work. It's unconstitutional. I'm not going to allow it. Five-day extension." I started to put the pressure on them that way.

I can't tell you all that didn't pass, but much of it didn't, including the land law. The antitrust law passed and it was a good one. It had an immediate impact on this community. We had certain occupations, like the barbers and the cosmetologists and a few others, and the way they were working was in violation of that new law, as a matter of internal commerce within the state of Hawaii.

And one of the first things we did was to straighten that out, whereupon there's Gill on the front page, "What the hell is the Governor doing about the antitrust law? Why is he fiddling around with these when we've got all these interlocking directorates and everything else?"

But it made a big change because we used to have the same business people, many of whom were business supporters of mine, and they didn't like it a bit, let me tell you. But they used to be on the board of Bank of Hawaii, on the board of Hawaiian Trust Company, maybe even on the board of the First Hawaiian Bank. Lots of them. On the board of Castle & Cooke and the board of Davies. Lots of things like that. That was all gone. We gave them a little time to get their affairs in order because the notice was that that was no longer tolerable. That worked.

That Legislature went out. In the meantime at that stage, the 1962 elections had started. Jimmy's running; talk about Mayor Blaisdell running; everything like that. We had at about the same time a shipping strike, a sugar strike and a pineapple strike. And dear old Dad was right in the middle. First of all, in the sugar strike and although there was so much else going on in the Legislature, still with all that I was meeting around the clock with these people and worked out a settlement.

Jack Hall, who was my political enemy, and others were all out in the papers saying, "The Governor's the one who worked out a settlement," but that was all lost with all of the rest of this stuff going on in the Legislature. But it was done.

The shipping strike was a major thing. That went over quite a long period of time because when it first started... I think there were two separate striking entities. The first were the Longshoremen and it came right up to the deadline. I was in touch with the Kennedy administration saying, "Look, this is a disaster to this state. We depend upon our food supplies and our medical supplies (and we did in those days)

on our transoceanic shipments and we can quickly get into an emergency situation if we can't get them. We've got to assure that essential shipments get to Hawaii."

I was able to persuade Arthur Goldberg, Secretary of Labor, that that was so. The administration was going to apply for a Taft-Hartley injunction which was quite unusual. I had to take my hat off to the Kennedy administration because that was not exactly their cup of tea. But they were going to do it.

They asked for an affidavit from me to support the application of all of the things that would happen here with this stoppage. I put together, with the help of staff, a long affidavit of everything. One amusing thing happened. A day or so before they were going to apply for the Taft-Hartley injunction in the district court in the San Francisco district, I got a call from a fellow who was then an assistant attorney general.

He said, "Governor, I have your affidavit here. It's fine. It's just what we wanted, but do you mind if I make a couple of changes?" I said, "What are you talking about?" "Well," he says, "for instance, Governor, one of the things that you say will be in scarce supply or perhaps will be in no supply, and it will cause various problems is sanitary napkins." "Now," he said, "I think that's a serious problem and I think it can be a great difficulty, but I have to take this into court and on the other side is Richard Gladstein." He was attorney for the ILWU and a brilliant trial attorney. "I can just see him there before a judge saying, 'Oh, your honor, just think they've got to go without sanitary napkins and isn't that a national emergency?'" He said, "We've got enough there without it." I said, "By all means, take it out." So they took it out, filed, and got the injunction. And that strike settled within the forty-five day period before they were free to strike again.

It wasn't too many months later that the Seamen struck. And this was serious. At that point it didn't look like they wanted to issue another Taft-Hartley injunction. They didn't want to go after it. Ships were there and were not allowed to unload in our harbor. Goods were on the mainland and couldn't get here. We started investigating the possibility of chartering some ships, the state chartering ships to bring essential supplies over. I went to California, I talked to the heads of the Seamen's union whom I knew, I talked to the heads of the shippers whom I knew, to see if I couldn't get their agreement to allow essential supplies to be loaded and shipped. Nothing was working.

I did charter a ship. We did try to bring emergency supplies in whatever way we could. We went to local court to try to get some things done. Finally, that one was settled.

We had a sugar strike and I think that was during the legislative session. I remember we were at the Moana Hotel. I had a room and the growers over here (indicating one side) and the union over here (indicating the other side) and we met several times in my office and at Iolani Palace and back and forth, back and forth. Finally, didn't know what was happening so I said, "All right, this is my deadline." This was after all else had failed, all other type of mediation. The professionals had all come and gone. Finally, I said, "Okay, I've got a deadline tonight." And, once again, it settled just on the eve of the deadline.

Going back to the shipping strike for a minute, what happened was that they agreed on arbitration. And then I had a pineapple strike, too. In that legislative session, one of the things was that we had a new Land Board.

END OF TAPE 6/SIDE 1

Q: I put together what I thought was an outstanding board. I think some of them had their enemies among those "barons" who had their own "baronies" in the Senate, and they made their own deals, and suddenly "Bang!" the whole board was not confirmed. And they were really outstanding, quality people. So I submitted another board and that went through.

I had a major problem. The Board of Regents of the University came up and at the same time I had gotten a ruling, at my request, from the Attorney General to the effect that the president of the University was not a department head under the constitution. The original ruling had been that the president of the University, like all other department heads, was a department head and therefore had to have a three-year residency requirement, which very seriously limited our choice of president of the University.

It was the only time I ever did it. I did some independent research on my own, because I felt that just wasn't right and I was looking at the constitution and its recognition of the University. I called Shiro and said, "Shiro, I don't think this is right, and I wish you would review that opinion because I would like to see a different opinion on that subject." (laughs) The only time I ever did that. But he did come in with a different opinion.

They had some good people on that Board of Regents, but they'd been there for fifteen or twenty years and they'd gotten fat and the University wasn't doing anything. But there were people like Garner Anthony, Phil Spalding, Sr., and others. I didn't fire them all, but I got rid of them all and named a new group. And I bumped into those Republicans again. "We don't want this. We want this. We don't want that. We want this." I held firm on that and I had enough really good people, like Herb Cornuelle, Art

Lewis, people that were highly regarded in the community. Finally, they were confirmed.

Then they had some freedom. We had as president Larry [Laurance] Snyder, who had been elevated from professorial ranks, and the first thing they did was say, "Well, Larry, you're no longer president." They had somebody acting--Willard Wilson, I think. Then there was talk about the regents backing maybe Herb Cornuelle for the University president. Next thing I got was some of the Republican Senators demanding that some of these regents be fired, that they're not doing a competent job because in the mind of one of them particularly, Julian Yates, a senior Republican Senator, the new president ought to be Hugh [Hubert] Everly who was a local man and was head of the employees retirement fund.

So there was all this pulling and all this hauling. Just terrible. In the meantime I met with the regents and encouraged them to go nationwide and find a really top guy to be president of this University and that's what they set out to do.

I'll never forget. They came in and they were so elated. The fellow they selected was going to come in and I was going to meet him. He was the president of the University of Wisconsin and an outstanding fellow. He came down. I met him, I was impressed with him. The job was his. He went back, got an offer from the University of Michigan and turned us down. But the regents had a second choice; Tom Hamilton, who was head of the university system of the state of New York. Tom came down, accepted the job and the University started to go. And it really started to go very well.

I had another problem. Frank Lombardi had been my planner, but he was a department head and he had to have the three-year residency requirement. I'd gotten special dispensation in that first session that I could wait three years before I filled certain departments including the Planning and the University. So the University's now been settled, and well settled (I was so pleased with that), although Yates was then out to fire Bobby Hughes come the next session because he had been one of the regents.

A lot of the Senators did not like Frank Lombardi. They didn't like him because he was my instrument to put in play capital improvement programs that didn't include the cafeteria, the natatoria, the auditoria, and instead included roads and airports and harbors and parks and water systems. So they were out to get him. Numbers of newspaper articles about this, too. Frank Lombardi's dead. Forget it. No way.

Meantime, we were the only state in the nation that came out that year with a twenty-year plan, and I wish they had paid some attention to it because pieces of it still begin to come out here and there. Here was this plan, and no twenty-year plan is fixed, but guidance year by year, and changes year by year. Ariyoshi went through the process again with great fanfare just a few years ago on a twenty-year plan instead of just...(laughs) building on what was there.

At any rate, Frank Lombardi was a big part of the planning. He was very effective but he was not a political person at all. So they were out after him and I didn't know what to do. Meantime, Masaji Marumoto, who was one of my original appointments to the Supreme Court, resigned. He had been a carryover. It had to be by reappointment, but he had served before. I think he was disappointed that he was not Chief Justice instead of Wilfred Tsukiyama. He served like six months or so, then he resigned. So there's a vacancy.

I had sent the name of Harry Hewitt. Harry was probably the best Circuit judge we had and the most experienced one. He had been Attorney General for some years earlier on and a very bright, able man, but he was sixty-eight years old. I thought this would be a good way to cap his career and he could serve for a few years, get off and I'd find somebody else. The Senate was absolutely adamant. They wanted Jack Mizuha, who was a very political person. Jack Mizuha had been my first Attorney General. I guess he was Attorney General in territorial days, and so I made him a Circuit Court judge when I got Shiro and that was best for everybody. Jack was a very political person and he wanted that Supreme Court seat and he had all these Senators behind him. So I faced this. They're going to knock off my Harry Hewitt and they're going to knock off my Frank Lombardi. These are my Republicans now. Fourteen Republicans in this twenty-five man Senate. And these are key positions.

There were about four or five news stories on this. I don't know how all this got out, but I remember it. They all said that Quinn pulled such a coup on this one, because I think I had talked to Harry and said, "Harry, it doesn't look good. I really wanted you to be on the Supreme Court because I believed you would do a splendid job, but your time would be limited because there is an age limitation." So I said, "I'm going to change." I didn't make that public.

Then I had a meeting on appointments with the Republican Senators. I'm making a big push for Frank Lombardi and I'm getting real serious opposition. Then I shifted ground and said, "Oh, by the way, it is my present intention to appoint Jack Mizuha to the Supreme Court." Caught them completely by surprise. "And then I would like to include Frank Lombardi for Planning at the same time." And I got them both. (laughs)

S: You were catching on to political expediency at that point.

Q: A little bit, that's right. So that was that. We had a big battle over the plan for the Land Use Commission, which was interesting and which, as I said, was something brand new. That finally passed and we had a big battle over who should be appointed. I had to come up with a second group of nominees. The first group was just turned down.

There was one thing that really hurt me. One of my dearest friends, Howard Hubbard, who had been my campaign manager and who was such a sweet, dedicated, unselfish person, had served, I think, at one point on the Territorial Board and he was one of those on the state Land Board they refused to confirm. Just a real kick in the face to the Governor by the Republicans in the Senate. It was terrible because it was the Senate that did all the confirming. The House had nothing to do with it. It wasn't the Democrats.

S: Looking back on all of this, I have to wonder why you wanted to run again. (laughs)

Q: I really don't know. I don't know that I wanted to or that I felt an obligation to. I think it was more the latter. I think it was really more the latter because there were still so many things that hadn't been done. For instance, we were getting nowhere in our negotiations with the federal government on all of the retained lands and we only had until 1964 to get them or else. So we engaged a Washington lawyer to see if we could sue the federal government under our statehood bill or whether there was sovereign immunity or whether this was an exception because we are a sovereign state and this is a conflict between two sovereigns. I have to say that we didn't get the suit filed before I left in 1962 and I can't recall what happened, but we didn't get any of those lands back. And we should have.

S: You were going to tell me some more about the prisons.

Q: That was certainly the most traumatic experience to come out of reorganization. We had pre-reorganization, we had a Department of Institutions, which took care of the prisons, headed by a fellow by the name of Joe Harper. The Department of Welfare, which took care of welfare, social services of various kinds, was headed by Mary Noonan.

S: We had talked about combining those and Mary's departure.

Q: That's right we did. But what I had forgotten was that somewhere along the line there Mary and Joe got into such a battle with headlines, headlines, headlines, and Mary fired

Joe. Joe was accustomed (and this was one of the real problems of reorganization) to being his own boss and suddenly he's reporting to somebody else. I backed Mary on that firing and he appealed, so he's still in place and things calm down for a little while. I hired a fellow by the name of Ray Belknap to be a deputy to Mary and be sort of a penologist to be in charge of that type of activity.

All of a sudden the whole thing flies open again. Charges and countercharges. That's when I got Ed Shaw and Joe Harper was out. His departure had been confirmed by the appropriate hearings agencies, but then we still had problems and that's when Ed Shaw came in and made the recommendation. I hadn't realized that subsequent to her departure his report was quite widely publicized. It had been a favorable report in a number of respects, but really charged her with being the one who was the cause of so much morale problem.

Then we had a real question about how we were going to fill that post. I found the district director on the Big Island, a lady by the name of Myrtle Ward, who was a very competent, capable, long-experienced social worker and a broad background and a strong lady, tough. I would say she was in her fifties. So I asked Myrtle if she would take the job, and she said yes. Then the confirmation started again. Just one great big huge hassle, but she finally got through and she did a good job. She and Ray Belknap together did a good job.

But that prison problem...there seemed to have been sort of a calm period for a few years while we were a territory and just about the time we became a state. We had a prison riot and then we had escapes that took place and everything was going on. It was just terrible and we had to do something. To this day they haven't improved Oahu Prison. It's just as bad as it was then. It's just shocking. One of the things I was looking for was a new prison site and I thought we had it and I thought we had the thing going. That lasted in headlines for weeks, literally.

One of the things that we did get through the Legislature in that session, although I never thought it would be possible, was some tax relief for our export industries. They used to pay a two percent tax on their production even though they were exporting. Just like a use tax, sales tax, and it was bad. This was a hell of a burden and in the meantime we were trying to build our exports. I got the Legislature to cut that to a quarter of a percent or a half percent in two or three stages. That was something that was very good and very sound at that time. We were trying to build and keep a good business climate and encourage those industries.

At the outset of that Legislature it looked, economically, like we were in good shape. I wanted to balance the budget and I didn't want to issue bonds and borrow money. We had some cash surplus and I wanted to use the cash surplus for these capital improvements. We went along and suddenly there are new and revised estimates coming out. Things looked like they were going down in the state, like we weren't going to get the revenues that we thought. Then the pressures started...borrow money. And they even began to panic. This was while the Legislature was still in session. We've got to prime the pump. Spend more money.

Of course, it was just a temporary thing. I was convinced that the combination of statehood and the jet airplane was going to do something big for us, so I successfully resisted. Pretty soon we were over the hump. It was only within six months--I'll never forget sitting behind my desk--and the vice president for Western operations for Pan Am is sitting across from me. His name was Murray. He was there to urge the state to charter some passenger vessels and park them in Honolulu harbor to take care of all the tourists that were going to come that year because of a lack of hotel rooms.

I think it was within another six months we were again in despair because we had so many excess hotel rooms. How in the world were we possibly going to fill them? It was really something.

As I say, they turned down the land bill. Then they started in to the 1962 session in January and that was a budget session, which means under the laws that then existed, only the budget--it's a thirty-day session, not a sixty-day session--and only the budget can be considered and other "urgent" items can be submitted but must be approved by two-thirds of each house. Well, I sent my land bill down there again as urgent. It ran into a huge hassle because it hadn't passed by August 21 of 1961, two years after statehood. I had said that we need these bills before August 21. Now August 21 had gone and we were still operating, so I must have been lying.

I said, "Well, we've got the Attorney General and he says what we are doing is legal even though there had been an earlier opinion that we needed this law to supplant the federal laws." So there was a huge hassle about that and when I sent that bill down, they said not a chance. They ruled against it right away. Then we start going through the budget and I don't know how it really was that I was able to get any support. We had not one, but about four extensions of that session.

Again they were talking about stopping the clock. I said, "Not a chance." Four days, twelve days, I just kept

them in session because they had not done the work and it was not over. Finally, they passed that land bill by more than two-thirds in each house and it became law. And after it became law we were able to do that farmer development at Lalamilo. We were able to do another one, farms and house lots, in Waimanalo. It really began to work the way we thought it should.

The bill had many very restrictive things that had been added to it by the House, which subsequently had to be amended out. Things like if you wanted to lease land, you had to get legislative approval. So you had the lease subject to legislative approval and then you had to submit it to the next Legislature, which was just terrible. But they did that for a particular reason, I think. At one time or another, I was representing this special interest. Then it was this special interest. Then it was this special interest. In the meantime, all of them, by and large, were getting mad at me. (laughs)

At one point I think they thought I was Dillingham's boy. One reason was that there was a ranch over on the Big Island that had come up for lease and there were negotiations between the Land Department and Dillingham, Carlsmith, the others who wanted to operate this land as a ranch. It was pretty well wasteland, so I figured that if we give them a term lease and require in the lease they do certain things in terms of planting and foresting, this would be a good thing and there was the only use that seemed available. So we negotiated that and leased it. Then the charge was, he's handing things to the Dillinghams on a silver platter.

They just pilloried me with that until all of a sudden came the question of Oahu Railway and Land station and the tracks going all the way out to Haleiwa. The question was: This belongs to OR&L but the state needs it. So I started moving against OR&L and Dillingham on that one. They were just really standing ground and giving it a cold shoulder. So finally we filed suit in court and we got appraisals.

I'll never forget because I was out at Malaekahana beach and I was at somebody's house with my family over Saturday and Sunday. Shiro came out and a couple of OR&L people and we sat there that morning and nailed down a settlement of that whole case where the state got the OR&L station and all of that track land and got it on a very, very favorable basis. So then, of course, they couldn't say that I was Dillingham's man. I had to be somebody else's.

Then they thought I was Matson's boy. This was an important thing, too. Matson and OR&L had been talking about bringing containers in near the OR&L station and bringing containers up by rail and transporting them by limited rail to some place else where the containers (containerization was

a brand new thing then) could be reloaded. They had a special yard some place. I heard about that.

The guy in charge of Castle & Cooke terminals was a fellow whom I knew by the name of Fred [Frederick] Simpich. I called Castle & Cooke. "No, he's on the mainland." I tracked him down and said, "Fred, we've got Pier 2 right here and Pier 2 is an ideal location for container ships to come in and the state will assist in putting up the unloading lifts and other facilities. It's just not being used and that's what we really need as a transportation center." "Oh," he said, "Governor, we've already checked that out. The currents and the tides are much too great there. We can't possibly do it."

Well, I called a couple of experts in and we proved it could be done. Next thing you know they abandoned the deal with the OR&L and they came over and the state put some money in to help. They were paying rent, of course, for Pier 2 and that was a great deal for the state. So I became Matson's boy until I went into court to try to prevent Matson from getting a rate increase. Then I became...(laughs) but I couldn't be my own man. I didn't have anybody. I didn't have the Senate, I didn't have the House. When I look back, I don't know how we made it. I had a few people working with me and fortunately there was so much to be done and we were just trying to do the best that we could. We got an awful lot done. I don't know how, but we did.

As soon as that 1962 budget session was over, I think you can say that everything turned strictly to politics. In the meantime Burns was back in the picture and Burns was making comments on this and comments on that starting about the latter half of 1961 and from then on. So they have a spokesman and he had announced and was beginning to develop a program. In the meantime I'm just so damn busy there's no way I can get involved in the politics of the situation. There was so much going all the time. All the time.

But they started coming out with polls. The first poll I remember was a university-sponsored poll. Burns ahead. Then there were two or three other polls. Quinn is leading the pack by a big margin. Art Woolaway was the party chairman. Ben Dillingham was the county chairman. They were trying to pull Kealoha and Quinn together. Kealoha says that's out of the question. It's too far gone. It just got worse and worse and worse and worse.

I guess one of the worst things that happened was that Ben Dillingham decided that he'd run for Senate. It didn't take very long to see that Dan [Inouye] was going to really clobber him. So then Dan had all this time to work against me. Dan and I had been good friends. We had worked together from time to time, but you know, politics is politics. He

and Masato Doi and Matsuo Takabuki went into all those Japanese precincts which had supported me and I could just feel them beginning to go the other way.

The Prince and Princess of Japan came to visit. Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko. Crown Prince. Right after they'd gotten married. I've never forgotten that visit. Attractive young people. Very careful about the way they behaved. We gave them a reception, a dinner, and we had a nice time with them. I remember that I got the word from his aides that the big public reception was going to be at the Waikiki Shell and they expected 10,000 or 12,000 people. Mostly issei, first generation Japanese. People who spoke Japanese and only Japanese in many cases.

I was told that in honor of the visit, if you will, the Prince was going to speak in English. I said, "That's my clue," so I said, "I'm going to speak in Japanese." I got Shiro and Wilfred Tsukiyama to help. I wrote my speech and said, "Please translate Japanese Romani, English letters, so I can pronounce it and indicate by some signs the inflections and how you tie them together and all that sort of thing." And they did that and then I had a couple of rehearsals with them so it could sound as close to Japanese as I could make it.

Well, the Prince got up and he made a nice talk and it was politely received. And I got up and all these 12,000 people--they'd seen me before, many times on TV and in the newspaper and out making speeches, but they'd never understood me before. I don't think I've ever made a speech that was received quite like that one. Every time I paused to draw a breath there was this great roar of cheers and applause because for the first time they understood what I was saying.

Oh, and I had such close and warm support with that Japanese community. They were really very much behind me in that 1959 election. I remember one case. One nice little Japanese woman came up to me after the 1962 election. Her eyes were filled with tears. She said, "You know, I voted for Burns because they said to, but I did it only because I was so sure you were going to win." But I lost all of the Japanese. These fellows just went there solidly and there was nothing I could do. Not a thing.

S: Well, even though you had given it your best shot and wanted to fulfill some of these ideas, you were bound to have a certain feeling of relief that it was all over and behind you.

Q: Yes, I think I did. But it was a big blow in the gut. I knew that I'd just about killed myself and yet here they said, "No, we don't want you."

S: So you felt totally unappreciated for the effort you had made.

Q: Yes, yes. I've got to tell you one other. I guess it was in 1959 that the United States Congress passed the mutual aid bill, but tacked to it was that single phrase: There shall be at the University of Hawaii a center for technical and cultural interchange. I think Johnson had put that there and Burns was working in Johnson's office at that time.

That's all there was. So we got that in our office. I called on some of the University people, Murray Turnbull, in particular, who was a teacher of art of all things, and Jack "Jake" Stalker they used to call him, who was a very outgoing, political-minded professor. We put together a committee and from that single sentence we fleshed out a book that thick (indicates approximately two inches) on what the East-West Center could be.

We sent the book back and we got people from the State Department out here. We reviewed it with them and we moved ahead and we got the State Department and President Eisenhower and the Secretary of State to accept it. And we laid out how this center could function and what it could do with students from the East on scholarship and students from the mainland and how they would mix together and what the technical would be and what the cultural would be. We got a \$10 million appropriation to get it started.

Among other things, Vice President Johnson came out. I went to meet him and Mrs. Johnson and we had a little parade through the downtown area to the Royal. There was a crowd gathered there and I guess that's when he was first greeting everybody. Senator Fong was there. Jack Burns was there. He's going to break ground for this East-West Center, which emerged since then as the great Johnson-Burns project.

So he said, "Senator Fong, former delegate Burns, distinguished guests, Governor Quinn," (with a very low inflection) just like that. Just like that. He had a big political reception because this was coming up to '62 again. Then they had a dinner and Nancy and I were invited to the dinner. We went to the dinner. The Vice President wasn't there yet, but many other people were. We went to what looked like the head table and it was full. Admiral Don Felt stood up and said, "Here, Governor, there's been some mistake. You take our place." He was CINCPAC. I said, "No, Don, you stay right where you are."

We wandered around, looked here and there. In the back of the room we finally found a table for two where we sat down to have dinner. That was Johnson.

S: Well, you and Lyndon just didn't get along, but...

Q: We certainly didn't. I have absolutely no respect for him or his memory and I think he was an absolute disaster to this country. That's the sort of guy he was.

But then something happened with the East-West Center that had my strong support and some initiative. It was made part of the University of Hawaii when it started. Major decisions were to be made by the Secretary of State. It wasn't going to work that way. All of our ideas, everything that we had conceived for the center, weren't going to work that way.

I believe we got a special study made (I can't remember who did it or how it came about), but it said that you really ought to have an independent status for the East-West Center. It ought to have its own chancellor. Subsequently, that became further removed as it now has its own president. It was then chancellor, so it had a dotted line relationship, if you will, to the University, but it had its own degree of independence and some power over its own budget. That was what it needed and then it began to take off.

Somehow or other that's all been the crowning feather in the Burns-Johnson cap. That is fine with me because I think it's a great institution. It's just starting to realize its potential and I think Victor Li is an outstanding leader of it.

We just had four Chinese from Zhejiang Province here for the Red Cross. They just left Monday morning, yesterday morning. They came and my recollection of the leader of the delegation, whom I'd met the year before, was that he had a good English command. When they got here, none of them spoke English and we didn't know where we were going to get an interpreter to be with them the whole time.

We found a student at the East-West Center who is a reporter for the China Daily News and is here as a graduate student in journalism. And last week was the week that they were off school and he was our interpreter. He was with them the whole time and during the course of that time he just got better and better. He spoke Mandarin, of course. Most of our Chinese don't.

Our Chinese like Raymond Hong, who gave a beautiful dinner at the House of Hong Sunday night, speak Cantonese. He had to use the interpreter to talk to these people. But this guy started off and he knew the language, but he'd wait until somebody said a couple of paragraphs and then he'd try to tell you what they said. But before it was over it was sentence by sentence and very good. We owe him a great deal.

We gave him a plaque the other night, but I'm going to do something else for him.

S: Yes, but it was a great experience for him, too.

Q: It was indeed, and he said, "I'm a newspaperman and I hope, Governor, I can call you and you can give me some time so I can question you on some things." At any rate, he was one of those at East-West Center and they're doing a good job.

END OF TAPE 6/SIDE 2

S: I'd like you to end this series of interviews with a few comments about what you feel lies ahead for our fiftieth state.

Q: I guess I'd first like to say that those exciting years were years that I would never give up and I have to feel in my own heart that we did things that were good for the state in its infancy. I was convinced then that the state of Hawaii is a very unique place because of its island location and because of its racial mixture and that that in itself would give it a great deal to offer.

It offered that perhaps more then because the feelings at that time were still high between Japan and the United States in many areas. I think it was recognized by both Japan and the United States, the governments, as being an effective bridge. I think that's why those invitations came about.

We were right in seeing that the combination of statehood and jet planes would change the character of the state. It used to be that in speeches I would say that our economy was a stool resting on four legs; the first was federal spending, the second was sugar, the third was pineapple and the fourth was tourism. Now tourism far exceeds the combination of sugar and pineapple and all other agriculture. And today we talk not about sugar and then pineapple, but we talk about agriculture as one because separately they're not that big.

We've seen very rapid growth. We made efforts which failed in nineteen, maybe '57 through '62, to try to get a hold on Waikiki development and our various legislative proposals were not accepted. That's too bad. I think, however, that there's been some upgrading in Waikiki and I hope there will be more. Our tourist industry is going to be with us for a long time.

The Neighbor Islands have been, in the last twenty-five years, brought very much into tourism and the game is really being played on the Neighbor Islands now. First, the

Kaanapali development and now there's another 600 acres of beach land that will be developed there. The Gold Coast on the Big Island. The Poipu area and that vicinity on Kauai. It's been a major contribution to all the Islands and certainly, as we know, it is far and away our leading industry.

I think that we are still reaching for the role that we can play in other ways in the center of the Pacific. The great concept of being a trans-shipment center never came about. While the East-West Center is a great institution and has a considerable amount to offer for the future, that generalized idea of the Hub of the Pacific, meaning so much to all of us, has not come about. That is not to say that there are not various roles that this state in its unique location with its unique population can play.

My recent visits to Korea and Japan lead me to believe that there could be regional offices here of countries from both sides of the Pacific, that there can be disputes resolved through arbitration and negotiation in a neutral area in Hawaii that will overcome a great fear and dislike that both the Koreans and Japanese and people generally in the Orient have of these extensive business contracts where every single possible contingency is covered and the lawyers take over and do all of the talking and all of the negotiations. They don't like that. They're intimidated by it. They'd rather have a two-page contract and as new things come up, let them be resolved by negotiation.

I believe that there is something coming, it's starting already, where arbitration, negotiation, mediation of that type of dispute can take place. This is a very good place for that sort of activity.

The Japanese, of course, are playing and will play a tremendous part in our economic future not only through the ownership of so much land, and particularly in the tourist business which is our main business, but also as time goes on, I think, in other phases of our state operations. Whether that is trouble or whether that is going to be of great benefit to this state, I'm not prepared to say. As we know, tourism itself is a lesser-paying industry. It could be that absentee owners could draw a great deal of the money out of Hawaii. That's a real problem.

I think it's going to be incumbent upon our leaders to continue to search for other types of economic activity to widen our base. I think there's some of that search going on. What we talked about thirty years ago is being talked about still. The possibility of mining minerals from the ocean floor and processing them maybe on the Big Island and using geothermal power to do that processing. All of that is still, I think, a strong possibility and can generate a

considerable industrial base because if you have the raw materials produced here, you could well also have some processing beyond that.

S: You spoke, in your time as Governor, of a four-legged stool. I feel that in 1987 we're faced with two crutches, tourism and the military. It's scary.

Q: I think that's very true and it is scary because, by implication, you're pointing out that what used to be our major industry is in serious difficulty. I'm on the board of Amfac. Amfac has 56,000 acres in fee and 96,000 acres under lease. They're the second largest producer of sugar, producing twenty-seven percent of the sugar that's produced in this state and that production can only continue so long as the federal government is offering some type of protection to locally produced sugar. Otherwise, the sugar cost of production is over sixteen cents a pound and the sugar price without supports ranges from four to eight cents a pound.

S: And I think the industry has done just about all that it can from the standpoint of cutting its costs.

Q: I think they've done all that they can as far as cutting costs are concerned. I know this is the case of Amfac and I think it is true of others, they are looking for alternative uses and they are looking at cocoa, coffee, but those are a long way off and how much of the land they can truly utilize as opposed to sugar is an unanswered question. But there are other types of developments. Amfac is talking about a theme park like a Disney World except on a larger basis. One that would reflect every culture in the Pacific in not only the food, but also in the environment and also in the various artistic and cultural activities. One could experience the whole world of the Pacific there. That would take quite a bit of land that's now in sugar.

S: Wouldn't that be in conflict with the Polynesian Cultural Center?

Q: It wouldn't be in conflict because right now the Cultural Center is the only game in town. It is purely Polynesian and you have to go early in the morning and stay all day. Most of the studies that have been made indicate that there is a need for additional such attractions. Right now we have Sea Life Park and the Cultural Center and that's it. Next year we'll have maybe six million tourists along with everybody else in the state.

There will be a constant growing of the state through retirees and others that just want to live in this great place. Back in the days of Henry Kaiser he used to dream, and I used to share his dream, about the clean industries, the research facilities and such activities. This would be

an absolutely ideal place for those, but it can only happen if we have one thing first, and that is a great university. That was a dream that was beginning to be realized under Tom Hamilton and with the accent on certain elements of growth and development and a plan to go there. They had a Board of Regents that was sound and for one small moment in history they had a lump sum budget, so the Legislature was not chipping away at every little thing that they were doing.

I have to say, and I think I hold my successors responsible for this, in that it was a very serious development for the future of our state. They wanted the University to be all things to all people. They wanted to have a great football team, they wanted to have a great baseball team, they wanted to have a med school, they wanted to have these monuments to their various interests and the end result is that it's mediocre.

I think the new president has realized that. I think there's going to be an effort to focus again. I really hadn't been fully appreciative of this until the other day when I met with some University people. What happened to lump sum budgeting was that you suddenly got a highly politicized Board of Regents appointed. They started digging into every single thing and manipulating and interfering with administration. That's just as bad as the Legislature doing it. Now you've got them both doing it. It's just an awful situation for the University to be in.

The counties are all interested in "high tech." They've set aside high tech parks. They've done it on Maui, they've done it on the Big Island. I think they've even done it on Kauai, and they've got a high tech park here on Oahu. But high tech means the sort of thing that you can do when you're in Boston. Boston did it and they did it carefully and thoroughly and they did it with a lot of support, but they started with MIT and Harvard and other great universities. And that's what it's all about.

We can do it, and we've got many other reasons to do it here. If we had the type of backup, technical backup and academic backup and state support, a lot of those scientists and technologists would like to be working full-time here where they've got many other things instead of in the northeastern part of the United States. But we don't have it. I think it is possible not to be so general, but say, "All right, let's look at the technologies that fit the Pacific and let's tailor ourselves to that and let's go out and get the best people."

I think there will be more and more money available to that University. One reason I was meeting with those University people was because we're selecting a man for the Henry Walker chair. Now that's a big gift. The income will

pay the salary of the professor as augmented by the University as need be to get as good a person as we want, no matter what it costs. The money's there. And we can do that in many other ways.

Of all the things I can think of the most important thing is to put that University back where it should be and get it going on that same road again because so many things can flow from that, including technical assistance to our own sugar and pineapple and other industries to see where we can go from here. I am optimistic about the future of this great state, but it is going to be a task that's going to require great imagination, great courage and a tremendous amount of determination.

END OF TAPE 7/SIDE 1

SUBJECT INDEX

- 1 Birth and early childhood in Rochester, New York
Parents' background
- 2 Move to St. Louis at age two
Early education at public schools
Meeting with Nancy Witbeck [Quinn]
- 3 Siblings: one brother and one sister
Summer camp in northern Wisconsin
- 3-4 Father's career
- 4 Importance of music in family
- 4-5 The Depression years
- 5 Anecdote: driving in the snow
- 6 Transfer to St. Louis University High School
Anecdote: smoking in the seniors' room
- 7 Enrollment at St. Louis University: School of
Commerce and Finance, then the School of Arts and
Sciences
- 8 College activities
Anecdote: George Garrelts, ghostwriter
- 9-10 Special Honors Program: Great Books
- 10-11 Admission to Yale and Harvard Law Schools
- 11-12 Anecdote: summer stock and "TB"
- 13 Decision not to follow theatrical career
- 14-16 Enlistment in the Navy during second year of law
school
- 17-18 Early Navy career and marriage
- 19 Transfer to Naval Air Intelligence
- 19-21 Anecdote: Nancy's Christmas visit to Rhode Island

- 21-24 Naval duty in the Pacific during World War II
- 25 Reunion with Nancy in Chicago
Transfer to Florida; discharge from the Navy
Anecdote: trip from Florida to St. Louis
- 26-28 Return to Harvard Law School: apartment hunting,
financial assistance
- 28-29 Anecdote: the birthday party
- 29-31 Job interviews prior to graduation
- 31 Job offer by Garner Anthony: decision to move to
Hawaii
- 32 Trip to Los Angeles via St. Louis
- 33 Anecdote: the auction in LA
- 34 Arrival in Honolulu; greeting by Alfred Castle
- 35-36 Early acquaintances in Honolulu
Introduction to Hawaiian music and local theater
- 36-38 Anecdote: Mr. Roberts and Hank Fonda
- 38-39 Early career experiences
- 39-40 Lincoln Day speech and decision to join the
Republican party
- 40-43 Early activities in the Republican party
- 43-46 Campaign for Territorial Senate 1956
- 46 Appointment to Statehood Commission
- 47-51 Appointment as Governor of the Territory of Hawaii
by President Eisenhower in 1957
- 51-52 Preparation of the budget for the 1958 Legislature
- 52-53 Drought situation in Kona
- 53-54 Territorial Planning Act: choice of a planner
- 54-55 Early development of tourism in Honolulu
Study for Neighbor Island resort facilities
- 55 Discussion of capital improvement programs

- 56-57 Invitation to and visit from Laurance Rockefeller:
development of Mauna Kea Beach Hotel
- 57 Development of Pacific Area Travel Association
- 58-59 Preparation for statehood
- 60-61 Efforts in Washington, D. C. on behalf of statehood
Anecdote: Meeting with then Senator Lyndon
Johnson
- 61-62 Discussion of Jack Burns' ambivalent attitude
regarding statehood
- 63-64 Statehood for Hawaii in 1959
- 64-66 Reorganization bill
- 66 Volcanic eruption at Kapoho
- 67-69 Discussion of appointments: problems with both
Republicans and Democrats
- 70 Joining of the Department of Social Services and
the Department of Institutions: Mary Noonan's
resignation
- 71-74 Discussion of appointments, legislative program,
union support
- 74-75 Discussion of legislative sessions: special,
reorganization, appointment, regular
- 76-77 Anecdote: President Sukarno of Indonesia
- 77-82 Hilo tidal wave May 23, 1960: preparation,
warnings, devastation, rebuilding
- 82-83 Use of state lands for social purposes: Lalamilo
- 83-84 Rumors regarding a vice presidential candidacy
- 84-85 Discussion of interviews with author Lawrence Fuchs
and Time reporter Jonathan Reinhart
- 85-86 Anecdotes: election evening
- 87 Loss of union support; charges of absenteeism
- 87-90 Anecdote: mainland trip to Minnesota and
California

- 90 Dedication and high caliber of staff with one exception
- 91-92 Anecdote: weekly television programs and "travelling" cabinet meetings
- 92-95 Visits to Japan, Taiwan and the Philippines in 1960
- 95 President Eisenhower visits Hawaii
- 96-97 Anecdote: King and Queen of Thailand visit Hawaii, a musical evening
- 97 Ongoing problems with Lieutenant Governor Kealoha
- 97-98 Anecdote: visit to Thailand, experience with Thai food
- 98-100 Major problems facing Legislature: antitrust laws, Land Use Commission, return of federally held lands to state
- 100-102 Strike negotiations: shipping, sugar, pineapple
- 102-103 The University of Hawaii: its status, its Board of Regents, naming of Tom Hamilton as president
- 103-104 Anecdote: appointments of Frank Lombardi and Jack Mizuha
- 105-106 Ongoing problems with the prison system
- 106 Tax relief for export industries
- 107-108 The budget session and the land bill
- 112-113 Anecdotes: "Dillingham's boy" and "Matson's boy"
- 100-110 The 1962 election
- 111-113 The origination, development and growth of the East-West Center
- 113-117 Views on the future of Hawaii

THE WATUMULL FOUNDATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Watumull Foundation Oral History Project began in June of 1971. During the following seventeen months eighty-eight people were taped. These tapes were transcribed but had not been put in final form when the project was suspended at the end of 1972.

In 1979 the project was reactivated and the long process of proofing, final typing and binding began. On the fortieth anniversary of the Watumull Foundation in 1982 the completed histories were delivered to the three repositories.

As the value of these interviews was realized, it was decided to add to the collection. In November of 1985 Alice Sinesky was engaged to interview and edit thirty-three histories that have been recorded to mark the forty-fifth anniversary of the Foundation.

The subjects for the interviews are chosen from all walks of life and are people who are part of and have contributed to the history of Hawaii.

The final transcripts, on acid-free Permalife bond paper and individually Velo-bound, are deposited and are available to scholars and historians at the Hawaii State Archives, the Hamilton Library at the University of Hawaii and the Cooke Library at Punahou School. The tapes are sealed and are not available.

August 1987